



Men's Gymnastics

No. 4 Cal Travels to MPSF Championships

Golden Bears seek first conference titles since 2004.

THIS WEEK: Sat., April 5 at MPSF Championships Lincoln, Neb. 12 p.m. PT

2008 Schedule/Results

7-4 overall

1/18	vs. Stanford	W, 347.25-346.75
1/26	at Stanford Open	2nd, 357.900
2/7-9	at Winter Cup Challenge^	Non-team scoring
2/16	at Ohio State	W, 355.200-351.00
2/2	at Pacific Coast Classic&	2nd, 354.400
3/8	at Big Flip\$	L, 356.150-355.650
3/15	vs. Penn State	W, 360.400-351.300
4/5	at MPSF Championships#	5:30 p.m.
4/17-19	NCAA Championships\$	TBA

^Winter Cup Challenge in Las Vegas
&Pacific Coast Challenge in Oakland, Calif.
\$Big Flip and NCAA Championships at Stanford
#MPSF Championships in Lincoln, Neb.
*MPSF Meet
All home meets in **bold**

Cal Gymnasitcs Quick Facts

Name.....	University of California
Location.....	Berkeley, Calif
Enrollment.....	33,000
Nickname.....	Golden Bears
Colors.....	Blue (282) & Gold (116)
Chancellor.....	Dr. Robert Birgeneau
Athletic Director.....	Sandy Barbour
Ex. Assoc. Athletic Director.....	Teresa Kuehn
Home Facility/Capacity.....	Haas Pavilion/11,892
National Affiliation.....	NCAA Division I
Conference.....	Mountain Pacific Sports Federation
Head Coach.....	Barry Weiner/17th season
Alma Mater/Year.....	Temple/1970
Record at Cal/Years.....	234-77-1 (.752)/16
Career Record/Years.....	Same
Assistant Coach.....	Aaron Floyd/3rd season
Alma Mater/Year.....	California/2003
Gymnastics Office Phone.....	510-642-9313
Gymnastics Office Fax.....	510-642-8339
2007 MPSF Finish.....	3rd
2007 NCAA National Finish.....	7th
Letterman returning/lost.....	13/2
All-Americans returning/lost.....	3/0
Newcomers.....	4



This Week in California Gymnastics

The Golden Bears will travel to Lincoln, Neb., to compete in the Mountain Pacific Sports Federation Championships at the University of Nebraska on April 5. Cal (7-4) won its last meet – a 360.400-351.300 upset of No. 2 Penn State – to close out the regular season March 15 at Haas Pavilion. After taking third at last year's conference meet, the Bears will look to take first in the MPSF for the first time since the 2004 season.

Scouting the MPSF

■ **Air Force:** No. 15 Air Force finished its regular season with a loss to Nebraska on March 22, but achieved its third-best score of the season with a 335.100. Junior Jacob Schonig captured first place on rings, falling just shy of the Air Force Academy record in the event, and sophomore fsGarrett Canter set an Air Force record in the pommel horse. Senior Greg Stine is currently ranked the No. 13 all-around gymnast in the nation and this week's MPSF Gymnast of the Week after winning his third consecutive USA Gymnastics national all-around title. Cal is currently ranked higher in every event than Air Force Academy and in the all-time series, Cal leads Air Force, 24-0.

■ **Nebraska:** In their last meet, the No. 9 Huskers demolished No. 14 Air Force, 353.650-335.100, taking five events and the all-around. Kyle Shanahan won his second consecutive all-around title against the Falcons with a career-high 87.45 and was named the MPSF Gymnast of the Week for his performance. Nebraska's highest national rankings are on parallel bars and pommel horse where the team is seventh. Cal holds a 14-2 all-time advantage over the Huskers.

■ **Oklahoma:** No. 2 Oklahoma's most recent dual meets have been victories, with a home win over No. 8 Minnesota on March 15 with an NCAA season-high score of 364.600 and an away triumph over No. 3 Penn State on March 22. Even though one of their captains, Jonathan Horton, was injured in warm-ups for the Penn State match, Oklahoma won all events but the pommel horse. Ranked first in the nation on vault, rings and floor, Oklahoma is also ranked no lower than nine in any of the other events. With Cal, the Sooners lead the all-time series record, 13-19.

■ **Stanford:** The Cardinal has been the top-ranked team in the nation since Feb. 18 with the only loss coming against Cal on Jan. 18. Stanford has not competed since March 8, when it defeated the Bears, 356.150-355.650 in the Big Flip at Stanford. The Cardinal was 7-1 against MPSF schools this season but has not won the conference title since 1995. David Sender is second in the national rankings for all-around while Chris Harper is second on pommel horse, one spot above Cal's Tim McNeill.

Recently in California Gymnastics

Cal upset No. 2 Penn State, 360.400-351.300, March 15. **Kyson Bunthuwong** won the all-around with a 90.200 while Penn State's Casey Sandy was second (88.650). Cal won pommel horse, rings, parallel bars and horizontal bar to cinch the win. The Bears took pommel horse thanks to first and second place performances by **Kyson Bunthuwong** (15.100) and McNeill (14.850), respectively. The Bears performed well on still rings, winning 60.900-58.750, with **Tyler Block** taking the event with 15.450. Cal held a 240.850-238.550 lead going into the final two rotations and extended that lead with a strong performance on parallel bars, taking the top five places and **Kyson Bunthuwong** won the event with a 15.650 while **Kyle Brady**, **Colin Christ** and **Tim McNeill** tied for second. Cal took horizontal bar, 58.900-53.950, to clinch the win.

California Coaches

Barry Weiner

Head Coach, 17th Year at Cal

Barry Weiner led the Golden Bears to national championships in 1997 and 1998. He has had a total of eight Top 5 national finishes and 11 NCAA individual championships in his 16 seasons at Cal.

Was National Coach of the Year after leading the Bears to a perfect 17-0 regular season in 1997 and went the entire '98 season without a loss en route to its second-consecutive team championship, after which Weiner was named MPSF Coach of the Year for the third time (he won the award for the fourth time in 2004) and National Coach of the Year. Including the 16-1 overall record of 2004, Weiner's career record stands at an impressive 223-67-1 (.769) spanning over the last fifteen years.

Weiner took the reins of the men's gymnastics program in 1992 after Cal's worst-ever 1-18 season in '91. Under his guidance, Cal rebounded to a 15-13 dual meet record, third in the conference and reaching the NCAA Regionals, where the team took seventh.

A native of Philadelphia, he earned a bachelor of science degree from Temple in 1970.

Aaron Floyd

Assistant Coach, 3rd Year at Cal

Aaron Floyd joined the Golden Bear coaching staff two years ago after spending four seasons, 1999-2003, as a student-athlete on the Cal gymnastics team. Floyd was the team captain his junior and senior seasons, and during his stint at Cal, he earned three Academic All-American honors.

National Team Rankings (Points)

1. Stanford (360.083)
2. Oklahoma (358.467)
3. Penn State (356.833)
- 4. California (356.250)**
5. Illinois (354.817)
6. Michigan (353.783)
7. Ohio State (348.417)
8. Minnesota (346.683)
9. Nebraska (345.550)
10. Iowa (343.917)
11. William & Mary (342.683)
12. Illinois-Chicago (341.217)
13. Temple (340.500)
14. Navy (338.933)
15. Air Force (335.900)
16. Army (332.417)
17. Springfield (331.250)
18. M.I.T. (321.667)
19. Arizona State (309.017)
20. Texas (297.867)

In the Gym with Barry Weiner

"I think we're going to do a very good job. I think the best two teams in the country, besides us, are Stanford and Oklahoma. So as always, they will be the best measuring stick for us. We've been working on sticking our routines, and that's what we've been doing in practice these past few weeks – increasing our hit percentage. We've been statistically recording every work out to work on being a solid team. With that being said, last week was the hardest training of the whole year for us. Our all-arounders did 15, 16 routines a day."

Last Year at MPSFs

Cal took third at the 2007 MPSF Championship behind champion Oklahoma and second-place finisher Stanford. The Bears were victorious in one of the six events, claiming victory on parallel bars with a score of 36.400. **Tim McNeill's** 9.350 topped all other gymnasts on parallel bar while **Colin Christ's** 9.250 was good enough for third out of all gymnasts. The Bears scored their highest event score on still rings – a 37.900 – to take second. Cal also took second on rings with McNeill and **Tyler Block** tying for third with two 9.650s. Cal lost a lot of momentum when Block went down with a knee injury on nearly perfect vault. McNeill, the reigning NCAA champion, came in second among all gymnasts on pommel horse with an 8.850.

McNeill Honored as Nissen-Emery Award Finalist

Tim McNeill has been named one of the seven finalists for the Nissen-Emery Award. The winner of the award, which is annually presented to the nation's most outstanding senior male collegiate gymnast, will be announced prior to the 2008 NCAA Championships in Stanford, April 17-19. Looking to be the first Golden Bear to receive the "Heisman Trophy" of gymnastics, the Falls Church, Va., native is the 16th Cal gymnast to be listed as a finalist in the award's 43-year existence. McNeill, a three-time all-American, is this year's co-captain of the Bears for the second season and is currently tied for most individual NCAA titles in school history.

Kyson Bunthuwong Leads Bears in Upset

Junior **Kyson Bunthuwong** won the all-around competition, scoring a 90.200, against No. 2 Penn State on March 15 at Haas Pavilion. Kyson won pommel horse (15.100), parallel bars (15.650) and horizontal bar (15.100). Additionally, the El Cerrito, Calif., native set new career highs on pommel horse, vault (15.600), parallel bars and high bar. Kyson's performances helped the Golden Bears to wins on pommel horse, p-bars and h-bar en route to the 360.400-351.300 upset of No. 2 Penn State in the final regular-season meet of the year.

Golden Bears on the National Scene

The Golden Bears are currently ranked fourth in the country. Cal's parallel bars team is tops in the country again this week with **Tim McNeill** holding down the No. 1 individual ranking spot. The pommel horse crew is third in the nation with McNeill tied for second and **Kyson Bunthuwong** occupying seventh place in the individual rankings, while Cal's rings and high bar teams are third and second, respectively. Cal was tabbed the No. 5 team in the country, according to the College Gymnastics Association's preseason poll.

The McNeill Report

Senior and three-time NCAA Champion **Tim McNeill** will be updating a blog this season. In his entries, McNeill gives updates regarding the happenings of the men's gymnastics team as the Bears progress through the season. To read McNeill's blog, go to the men's gymnastics page on CalBears.com.

Where Cal Ranks Nationally:

Team: No. 4		
Floor: No. 9	Pommel: No. 3	Rings: No. 3
Vault: No. 9	Parallel Bars: No. 1	High Bar: No. 2

Individual National Rankings:

Kyson Bunthuwong:	No. 7 on pommel No. 3 on parallel bars	No. 3 on high bar
Tim McNeill:	No. 2 (t) on pommel	No. 1 on parallel bars
Tyler Block:	No. 6 on rings No. 7 on high bar	No. 6 on parallel bars
Kyle Bunthuwong:	No. 17 (t) on high bar	
Colin Christ:	No. 5 on parallel bars	No. 11 on high bar