



2008 BIG WEST SOFTBALL

Big West Conference - 2 Corporate Park, Suite 206, Irvine, CA 92606

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LBSU's Turner Earns Pitcher and Freshman Pitcher of the Year Honors ***UCSB and Pacific Earn Field Accolades, While LBSU and UCSB Split Coaching Awards***

IRVINE, CALIF. -- For the first time in Big West history, one player earned two major awards in the same season as Long Beach State's Brooke Turner was named both the Big West Pitcher of the Year and the Freshman Pitcher of the Year. The 49ers also took home another major award as head coach Kim Sowder was named the Co-Coach of the Year along with UC Santa Barbara first-year manager Brie Galicinao. The Gauchos also added a first as Tiffany Wright was named the program's first conference Field Player of the Year. The remaining major award went to Pacific as Nicole Matson claimed Freshman Field Player of the Year accolades, the second time a Tiger has claimed the award all-time.

Turner had a historic season in her first go-round as a collegian, posting a 26-4 record to go along with a 0.67 ERA, 30 complete games in 32 starts, 26 runs, 20 earned runs, 17 shutouts, 226 strikeouts and just 39 walks in 210.0 innings. She was voted the conference Pitcher of the Week on a Big West record eight occasions, was named Louisville Slugger/NFCA National Player of the Week March 4 and ranks third in the NCAA in ERA and 21st in wins as of May 13. Turner also set numerous school records, including single-game strikeouts (16), strikeouts in a season (226), shutouts and tying the single-season wins mark.

Wright shook of a tough start to finish as one of the hottest players in the nation on the way to Field Player of the Year honors. The junior ranks fifth in the league in batting (.350), tops in runs scored (40), fourth in hits (62), fourth in RBI (40), tied for second in doubles (15) and second in home runs (12). During conference play, Wright was nearly impossible to get out, leading the Big West in batting (.487), hits (37), RBI (26), runs scored (23), home runs (9) and tying for the lead in doubles (8). The three-time Field Player of the Week was unstoppable in UCSB's season-ending conference series against Cal State Fullerton, batting .692 (9-13) with two home runs, eight RBI and four runs scored to help the Gauchos win a series against the Titans for the first time since 2004.

Matson was a key part of the lineup for the Tigers this season, batting mostly cleanup as the club looked to replace the production of graduated All-America Jennifer Curtier. Matson batted .275 with a team-high tying seven homers and ranked second on the club with 30 RBI. She also added 31 runs, 46 hits, eight doubles and picked up five stolen bases. Matson also recorded eight multi-hit games and eight multi-RBI outings over the course of the season, including a career-best four RBI effort thanks to a grand slam against UC Santa Barbara May 3.

Sowder piloted Long Beach State to a prolific 2008 regular season, picking up 39 wins and the program's first Big West Championship since the 2005 season. Along the way, LBSU defeated national powers Florida, Hawai'i, Florida State, San Diego State, Texas A&M and Washington on the way to its 18th NCAA Regional appearance. The 49ers also collected their most conference (15) and overall wins since 2005, were ranked in the USA Today/NFCA Poll or ESPN.com/USA Softball Poll every week since March 11 and were given a #14 national seed by the NCAA Softball Selection Committee.

Galicinao managed the UC Santa Barbara softball team to a 30-24 record in her first season at the helm of the program, the second consecutive 30-win campaign for the Gauchos and the fifth in school history. UCSB also finished in second place in the league standings with a 13-8 mark, its best conference performance since the 2004 season, and had an eight-game win streak which was the longest for UC Santa Barbara since the 2002 season. Galicinao also turned what was a dormat offense in 2007, to the league's top unit in 2008. The Gauchos lead the league in virtually every offensive category including batting (.291), runs scored (243), hits (425), RBI (216) and home runs (38).

The All-Big West teams feature plenty of new faces as only four players who made the first team a year ago repeated the honor in 2008. The complete All-Big West squads are as follows:

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2008 BIG WEST SOFTBALL ALL-CONFERENCE TEAM

FIRST TEAM

<u>Player</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Pos</u>	<u>B-T</u>	<u>Ht.</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Hometown</u>
Jessica Doucette	Cal State Fullerton	P	R-R	5-7	Senior	El Segundo, Calif.
Jessica Hancock	UC Davis	P	R-R	5-8	Junior	Long Beach, Calif.
Brooke Turner	Long Beach State	P	R-R	5-11	Freshman	Buena Park, Calif.
Brooke LeSage	Long Beach State	C	R-R	5-8	Senior	Corona, Calif.
Jaclyn Rymer	Cal State Northridge	1B	L-L	5-6	Sophomore	Bakersfield, Calif.
^Christine Ramos	UC Santa Barbara	2B	L-R	5-7	Junior	Long Beach, Calif.
^Melissa Pura	Cal Poly	SS	R-R	5-9	Junior	Salinas, Calif.
^Tisha Duran	UC Santa Barbara	3B	L-R	5-5	Senior	Ventura, Calif.
Danielle Linke	Long Beach State	OF	L-L	5-5	Junior	Whittier, Calif.
Lacy Tyler	Long Beach State	OF	R-R	5-11	Senior	La Mirada, Calif.
Tiffany Wright	UC Santa Barbara	OF	R-R	5-9	Junior	Corona, Calif.
Marissa Alvidrez	UC Riverside	UT	R-R	5-6	Sophomore	Bakersfield, Calif.
^Kiki Munoz	Cal State Fullerton	DP	R-R	5-9	Senior	Orange, Calif.

SECOND TEAM

<u>Player</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Pos</u>	<u>B-T</u>	<u>Ht.</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Hometown</u>
Christine Hiner	Cal State Fullerton	P	R-R	5-8	Freshman	Garden Grove, Calif.
Mercedes Lovato	Cal State Northridge	P	L-R	5-6	Senior	Simi Valley, Calif.
Bridgette Pagano	Long Beach State	P	R-R	5-10	Sophomore	Temecula, Calif.
Christin Songer	UC Riverside	P	L-R	5-10	Senior	Orangevale, Calif.
Chelsea Engle	Pacific	P	R-R	5-8	Junior	Folsom, Calif.
Amanda Peek	Cal State Northridge	C	R-R	5-5	Junior	La Crescenta, Calif.
Kellee Wilson	Pacific	1B	R-R	5-6	Sophomore	Tracy, Calif.
Casey Goldsand	Pacific	2B	L-R	5-3	Junior	Scottsdale, Ariz.
Jessica Beaver	Long Beach State	SS	R-R	5-6	Senior	Hemet, Calif.
Jennifer Griffin	Long Beach State	3B	R-R	5-5	Junior	Whittier, Calif.
Sarah Iwata	Cal Poly	OF	R-R	5-5	Senior	Torrance, Calif.
Jenna Maiden	Cal Poly	OF	R-R	5-8	Junior	Santa Maria, Calif.
Lindsey Pierce	Pacific	OF	L-R	5-2	Freshman	Camarillo, Calif.
Anna Cahn	Cal Poly	UT	L-L	6-1	Freshman	Los Alamitos, Calif.
Marissa Alvidrez	UC Riverside	DP	R-R	5-6	Sophomore	Bakersfield, Calif.

HONORABLE MENTION

<u>Player</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Pos</u>	<u>B-T</u>	<u>Ht.</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Hometown</u>
Anna Cahn	Cal Poly	P	L-L	6-1	Freshman	Los Alamitos, Calif.
Helen Pena	Cal Poly	P	R-L	5-5	Sophomore	Hemet, Calif.
Tami Weston	UC Santa Barbara	P	R-R	5-9	Junior	Ventura, Calif.
Ericka Hansen	UC Santa Barbara	C	R-R	5-1	Senior	San Clemente, Calif.
Lauren Lupinetti	Cal State Fullerton	C	R-R	5-10	Junior	Long Beach, Calif.
Krysten Cary	Cal Poly	1B	R-R	5-9	Sophomore	Rancho Santa Margarita, Calif.
K.C. Craddick	Cal State Fullerton	1B	L-L	5-6	Freshman	Yorba Linda, Calif.
Jessica Ziegler	UC Santa Barbara	1B	L-R	5-6	Sophomore	San Diego, Calif.
Stephanie Tam	Cal Poly	2B	R-R	5-1	Junior	San Pedro, Calif.
Katie Gollhardt	Cal State Fullerton	3B	R-R	5-8	Senior	Glendora, Calif.
Nicole Matson	Pacific	SS	R-R	5-11	Freshman	Castaic, Calif.
Alexandria Alvarado	Cal State Northridge	OF	L-L	5-3	Sophomore	Visala, Calif.
Nicole Churnock	UC Santa Barbara	OF	L-R	5-5	Senior	Orange, Calif.
Francisca Morlet	Long Beach State	OF	S-R	5-4	Senior	Whittier, Calif.
Sarah O'Neill	UC Davis	OF	R-R	5-8	Senior	Napa, Calif.
Trish Paine	UC Davis	OF	L-R	5-4	Junior	Lakewood, Calif.
Alyce Jorgensen	Pacific	UT	R-R	5-7	Senior	Los Altos, Calif.
Sarah Iwata	Cal Poly	DP	R-R	5-5	Senior	Torrance, Calif.

^Two-time first team all-conference selection

2008 FIELD PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Tiffany Wright, UC Santa Barbara

2008 PITCHER OF THE YEAR

Brooke Turner, Long Beach State

2008 CO-COACHES OF THE YEAR

Kim Sowder, Long Beach State
Brie Galicinao, UC Santa Barbara

2008 FRESHMAN FIELD PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Nicole Matson, Pacific

2008 FRESHMAN PITCHER OF THE YEAR

Brooke Turner, Long Beach State