



Mountain West Conference NEWS

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MOUNTAIN WEST CONFERENCE SWIMMING AND DIVING CHAMPIONSHIPS TO BE HELD IN OKLAHOMA CITY

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. – The Mountain West Conference Swimming & Diving Championships will be held in Oklahoma City, Okla., for the third straight year. Oklahoma City Community College will host the event Feb. 27-Mar. 2.

Two-time defending conference champion BYU leads the eight-team Mountain West field. The Cougars' men's and women's teams captured the 2000 and 2001 MWC Championships and enter this year's event in search of the school's third straight and 12th overall league crown. However, UNLV will look to challenge for the conference crown with the help of three Olympians.

LOCAL INTEREST

Four Mountain West Conference student-athletes have Oklahoma ties. Edmond, Okla., native **Andy Kapchinske** (Edmond North HS) of UNLV returns to his home state for the 2002 Mountain West Conference Championships. A two-time Academic All-MWC selection, Kapchinske totaled 29 points in last year's conference championship and enters this year's event with the league's 12th best time in the 200-yard backstroke. Colorado State's **Dylon Groenewald**, of Jenks, Okla. (Northside HS), ranks in the MWC top 25 in the 50- and 100-yard backstroke. UNLV senior **David Schick** also made his home in Jenks, Okla., graduating from Jenks High School in 1998. An Olympic Trial qualifier in the 1999-2000 season, Schick tallied 53 points in last year's MWC Championships and was the third highest scorer in the 2000 conference championships, winning the 100-yard butterfly and the 200-yard individual medley. Schick holds the MWC's best time this season in the 100 butterfly. Air Force Academy's **Rory Peterson**, of Ponca City, Okla. (Ponca City, HS), an Academic All-MWC honoree last season, will challenge the field in the 500- and 100-yard freestyle. Peterson currently ranks in the top 20 in both events, including a conference ranking of No. 14 in the 500 free.

AIR FORCE (2001 MWC Championship Finish: Men - 3rd; Women - 7th)

Men's Head Coach: Rob Clayton; Women's Head Coach: Keith "KC" Converse

Falcon senior **Sarah Law**, last year's MWC Diver of the Year, leads a strong core of divers in this year's championship. Law holds the Mountain West Conference championship record in platform diving and ranks first in the 1-meter and second in the 3-meter diving events on the MWC top performance list for the season. Law has been honored twice as the Colorado Sports Woman of the Year for swimming & diving. Sophomore **Paul Brehm** is one of the frontrunners in the backstroke events. Brehm ranks first in the MWC performance list in the 100 backstroke and is listed second in the 50- and 200 backstroke.

BYU (2001 MWC Championship Finish: Men - 1st; Women - 1st)

Men's Head Coach: Tim Powers; Women's Head Coach: Stan Crump

Sydney Olympic participant (2000) **Gary Tan**, the MWC meet record holder in the 200 individual medley, leads the Cougar men's swimmers, while two-time All-American and conference record holder **Aaron Russell** is the frontrunner in the men's 1- and 3-meter diving events. Russell and **Justin Wilcock**, an All-American, Second Team Academic All-American and MWC Diver of the Year, should score big points in the diving events this year. Wilcock has the league's top point total this season in the 3-meter event. Two MWC record holders return to lead the Cougar women's team. **Tamber Covington** will look to defend her record time in the 200 breaststroke, while **Ashlee Rumfallow** leads the field in the 200 individual medley after posting a league record in last year's championships.

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COLORADO STATE (2001 MWC Championship Finish: Women – 2nd)**Women's Head Coach: John Mattos**

Senior **Lyndsey Carlaw** paces the Rams in the relay events again this year after helping Colorado State to a first-place finish in the 200-yard freestyle relay in last year's MWC Championship. She also ranks in the MWC top 10 in the 100-yard freestyle and 200-yard individual medley, and holds a No. 2 ranking in the 100-yard butterfly. Sophomore **Kristen Schneider** returns to the MWC Championships after setting the league record as a freshman last year in the 100-yard backstroke.

NEW MEXICO (2001 MWC Championship Finish: Women – 8th)**Women's Head Coach: Bill Spahn**

Freshman **Becca Barras** leads the Lobo divers into this year's championship. A four-time Mountain West Conference Diver of the Week honoree this season, Barras ranks in the MWC top four in all three diving events in her first season of collegiate competition. Senior **Quinn Michie**, the Lobo record holder in the 200 individual medley, was a medal winner in the same event as a sophomore at the 2000 MWC Championships.

SAN DIEGO STATE (2001 MWC Championship Finish: Women – 6th)**Women's Head Coach: Deena Deardurff Schmidt**

Senior **Heather DeFelice** broke a 21-year-old San Diego State record in the 50-yard freestyle this season and is currently fifth on the Mountain West Conference performance list for the 50 free and the 200 breaststroke. A two-time Academic All-MWC selection, DeFelice also holds the Aztec swimming record in the 100 breaststroke and was a member of the record setting 200-yard medley and 200-yard freestyle relay teams. Sophomore **Megan Storey** holds the SDSU record in the 1000- and 1650-yard freestyle events, while senior **Meghan Cassilan** is the school record holder and an MWC top three performer in the 100- and 200 backstroke.

UNLV (2001 MWC Championship Finish: Men – 2nd; Women – 3rd)**Head Coach: Jim Reitz**

The Rebels bring a host of talent to the championships again this year after challenging for the titles a year ago. The UNLV men finished just 11.5 points behind BYU at the 2001 MWC Championships, and seniors **Michael Short**, **Jacint Simon** and **Andrew Livingston** are in search of a conference title. A two-time All-American, Short is a member of three Rebel relay teams (200 free, 400 free, 200 medley) that set MWC Championship records. A Hungarian Olympian (2000) and three-time All-American, Simon earned MWC Swimmer of the Year honors at last year's conference championships. Simon is the MWC record holder in the 500 freestyle and has the league's top time in the 200- and 500 freestyle this season. Livingston, a three-time All-American, Olympian (2000) and U.S. National Champion in the 200 butterfly (2001), has the league's best time in the 200 fly and ranks second in the 100 fly and the 400 individual medley. On the women's side, senior **Lorena Diaconescu** holds MWC records in the 100-, 200- and 500 freestyle and should be the frontrunner in those events at this year's championships. A two-time Olympian (1996-2000) and two-time All-American, Diaconescu earned MWC Swimmer of the Year the past two years and has captured a total of six individual conference titles and has been a member of four championship relay teams.

UTAH (2001 MWC Championship Finish: Men – 5th; Women – 5th)**Head Coach: Michael Litzinger**

The Utes bring a number of talented young competitors to this year's championship. Sophomore **Kristen Kaiser** ranks second in the MWC in the 1000 freestyle and the 400-yard individual medley relay this season. The school record holder in the 500- and 1000 freestyle, Kaiser captured the 400 individual medley as a freshman last season at the MWC Championships, while placing third in the 1000 free. Sophomore **Neringa Statkeviciute** ranks in the MWC top five in the 50-, 100- and 200 freestyle this year, while freshman **Loren Sweny** has the league's third best time in the 200 backstroke. On the men's side, freshman **Evan Castro** turned in the league's second best time in the 100- and 200 breaststroke this season. Freshman **Cody Rempfer**, an MWC Swimmer of the Week in October, is in the conference top 10 for the 200 butterfly and the 400 individual medley.

WYOMING (2001 MWC Championship Finish: Men – 4th; Women – 4th)**Head Coach: O. Thomas Johnson**

Junior **Damian Storz** and senior **Oscar Delgado** will lead the Wyoming men's team, while juniors **Mabry Fiddler** and **Jody Riskowski** will pace the women's squad. Storz, the 2000 MWC Freshman of the Year, captured the 400 individual medley two years straight at the MWC Championships, setting a conference record in the event as a freshman. A competitor at the 2000 Olympic Trials, Storz clocked the league's best time in the 1650 freestyle this season. Delgado, who competed at the 2000 World Championships for Ecuador, holds the school record in platform diving and currently ranks fourth in the MWC in the 1-meter. Fiddler holds school records in the 200 breaststroke and the 400 individual medley and has the league's best time this season in the 400 individual medley. Riskowski, a two-time Academic All-MWC selection, ranks eighth on the MWC performance list in 50 freestyle.



**2002 MOUNTAIN WEST CONFERENCE
SWIMMING & DIVING CHAMPIONSHIPS
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma**

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2002

7:00-10:00 a.m.	Warm up	
10:00 a.m.	Women's One-meter Springboard	Prelims
2:00 p.m.	Men's One-meter Springboard	Prelims
6:00 p.m.	200-yard Medley Relay One-meter Springboard	FINALS FINALS
	5-minute warm up period	
	800-yard Freestyle Relay	FINALS

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2002

7:00-11:00 a.m.	Warm up	
11:00 a.m.	500-yard Freestyle 200-yard Individual Medley 50-yard Freestyle	Prelims Prelims Prelims
2:00 p.m.	Men's Three-meter Springboard	Prelims
6:00 p.m.	500-yard Freestyle 200-yard Individual Medley 50-yard Freestyle Men's Three-meter Springboard	FINALS FINALS FINALS FINALS
	5-minute warm up period	
	200-yard Freestyle Relay	FINALS

**DIVING FINALS WILL BEGIN IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE CONCLUSION OF
THE FINAL INDIVIDUAL EVENT OF THE EVENING.**

FRIDAY, MARCH 1, 2002

7:00-11:00 a.m.	Warm up	
11:00 a.m.	400-yard Individual Medley 100-yard Butterfly 200-yard Freestyle 100-yard Breaststroke 100-yard Backstroke	Prelims Prelims Prelims Prelims Prelims
2:00 p.m.	Women's Three-meter Springboard	Prelims
6:00 p.m.	400-yard Individual Medley 100-yard Butterfly 200-yard Freestyle 100-yard Breaststroke 100-yard Backstroke Women's Three-meter Springboard	FINALS FINALS FINALS FINALS FINALS FINALS
	5-minute warm up period	
	400-yard Medley Relay	FINALS

SATURDAY, MARCH 2, 2002

7:00-11:00 a.m.	Warm up	
11:00 a.m.	200-yard Backstroke 100-yard Freestyle 200-yard Breaststroke 200-yard Butterfly	Prelims Prelims Prelims Prelims
	15-minute warm up period	
	1650-yard Freestyle	Prelims
1:00 p.m.	Men's Platform	Prelims
3:00 p.m.	Women's Platform	Prelims
6:00 p.m.	1650-yard Freestyle 200-yard Backstroke 100-yard Freestyle 200-yard Breaststroke 200-yard Butterfly Platform Diving	FINALS FINALS FINALS FINALS FINALS FINALS
	5-minute warm up period	
	400-yard Freestyle Relay	FINALS

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