

2002-03 Headlines

May 19, 2003

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL PLAYERS HONORED AS SCHOLAR-ATHLETES

Four women's basketball players were among a school record 170 student-athletes honored as 2002-03 Big West Conference Scholar-Athletes at the program's annual banquet Monday night (May 19) at the Crowne Plaza Hotel.

Lisa Faulkner, Wendy Gabbe, Kristin Thawley and Joanna Usher were honored at the banquet.

This year's list of scholar-athletes brings UCI's total to 2,221 since 1984. The 170 honorees bests the old mark of 148 set in 1998-99. Requirements for this award include maintaining a 3.0 grade-point average (GPA) over three quarters or a 3.2 GPA over two quarters for freshmen. Student-athletes must also earn letters in their sports.

The Scholar-Athlete award was implemented by the Big West Conference to honor those student-athletes that have maintained a high level of scholastic excellence while participating in intercollegiate athletics. UCI expanded the award to include teams that do not participate in Big West-sponsored sports.

May 13, 2003

STEPHANIE DUDA AND SHAYNA STANLEY SIGN NATIONAL LETTERS OF INTENT

Irvine, CA -Stephanie Duda and Shayna Stanley have signed national letters of intent with the UC Irvine women's basketball program, head coach Mark Adams announced.

Duda is a 5-10 post player from Los Alamitos High School. She led Orange County in scoring as a senior with a 23.5 points per game average. She also grabbed 14.8 rebounds. Duda had a career-high 47 points and 27 rebounds versus Terra Vista High School. She was a Division IA All-CIF first team selection as well as an All-Sunset League choice. Duda led the Griffins to the CIF Quarterfinals, earning all-county distinction. The forward became the all-time leading scorer (2,231 points) and rebounder (1,258) at Los Alamitos, averaging 20.5 points and 11.5 rebounds per game over her four-year career.

"Stephanie Duda was a prolific scorer in high school, scoring over 2000 points in her career. She's also a very strong rebounder," Adams said. "I anticipate her playing power forward and scoring facing the basket which will be an adjustment from high school where she played with her back to the basket. We will take advantage of her ability to score on the block and create mismatch problems for our opponents' guards as well. She's very athletic, physically strong and has a super work ethic so I believe Stephanie will adapt to the college level quickly."

Stanley is a 5-7 guard from Westchester High School. She was a first-team all-league and all-area selection as a senior. The guard averaged 11.3 points and 7.0 assists per game as a senior. Basketball Times Magazine rated Stanley in the Top 50 Prep female basketball Players in California.

"Shayna Stanley will provide great help at the point guard position. She has unbelievable quickness, great court sense, she's very unselfish and a superb passer. Defensively, she uses her quickness very well and can really disrupt whomever she defends. She has the ability to step in and contribute immediately," Adams finished.

The duo joins Angie Ned and Katie Urban who signed in November.

April 10, 2003

GABBE; FAULKNER EARN ACADEMIC ALL-BIG WEST

IRVINE, CA --- Senior Wendy Gabbe and sophomore Lisa Faulkner earned Academic All-Big West Conference honors, the Big West Conference Office announced.

Each honoree maintained a 3.2 cumulative grade point average or better and participated in over 50 percent of the team's competition. Student-athletes must also reach sophomore standing.

18 Anteaters were among the 84 Big West Winter honorees in the sports of men's and women's basketball and men's and women's swimming and diving.

March 17, 2003

A SUCCESSFUL SEASON: UCI ended the year 17-12 overall, the most wins since 1994-95 when the team finished 19-11. The team was 9-6 against Big West opponents, the most conference wins since the 1997-98 team was 11-14. Overall, it was a nine game improvement after the Anteaters were 8-20 a year ago.

RECORDS FALL: This season, UCI set a new season record for most assists (482), three-pointers made (181) and attempted (500). Lisa Faulkner set a school record for most assists in a season (189) and tied the assist average (6.5). UCI made 12 three-pointers against Cal Poly and Air Force, a school record and was tied for the most by a Big West team this season. The Anteaters attempted a school record 32 treys against UC Riverside Feb. 6, the second most attempts in the league this season.

GABBE NAMED TO BIG WEST TOURNAMENT TEAM: Senior Wendy Gabbe was named to the Big West All-Tournament team after averaging 17.5 points per game. She was joined by UCSB's Jess Hanson and Kristen Mann, Pacific's Gillian d'Hondt and Long Beach State's Glory Johnson. UC Santa Barbara's Lindsay Taylor was named the MVP.

STARTING FIVE EARNS ALL-CONFERENCE HONORS: All five of UC Irvine's starters earned All-Big West Conference women's basketball honors. The five honors were a school record for all-conference choices. The Anteaters garnered three all-conference selections in 1995-96 and 1997-98. It is the first league honor for all five players.

Christina Callaway (Shingle Springs/Ponderosa HS) and Wendy Gabbe (Eugene, OR/South Eugene HS) were named to the All-Big West second team. Callaway led the team in rebounding at 7.8 and was second on the team in scoring at 12.8. She was second in the Big West, recording eight double-doubles this year. Gabbe led the team in scoring, averaging 13.1 points and led the team with 60 three-pointers.

Junior Kristen Green (Boise, ID/Acalanes HS) and sophomore Lisa Faulkner (Oregon City, OR/Oregon City HS) were named to the honorable mention squad. Green was third on the team in scoring at 10.8 points and was second on the club in rebounding averaging 5.7 boards per outing. Faulkner led the conference and is ranked 12th nationally in assists dishing 6.5 per game. She added 8.5 points per game.

Forward Lauren Yadon (Orange/Villa Park HS) was named to the All-Freshman team after averaging 9.8 points and 5.5 rebounds per game. She was the first freshman to garner the honor since Princess Hatcher in 1995-96.

NATIONAL RANKINGS: UCI was ranked 14th in least amount of turnovers and 25th in assists per game in the NCAA rankings released Mar. 11. Individually, Lisa Faulkner was 12th in assists. The team ended the year averaging 14.7 turnovers and 16.6 assists per contest and Faulkner averaged 6.5 assists per outing.

AMONG THE BIG WEST: As a team, UCI ranked third in scoring defense (64.5) and second in scoring offense (65.7). They led the league in assists (16.62) and turnover margin (+3.65). Beyond the arc, the Anteaters were first in three-pointers made (6.24) and second in three-point field goal percentage (.362). The team was first among Big West teams in assists/turnover ratio (1.13) and was third in field goal percentage, shooting .407.

FROM DOWNTOWN: UCI averaged 6.2 treys per game and averaged 6.5 per game against conference opponents. UCI knocked down seven or more three-pointers in 14 games this year. The Anteaters drained at least one three-pointer in 130 consecutive games. The last time UCI did not hit a three was Dec. 18, 1998.

February 20, 2003

UC IRVINE'S WENDY GABBE NAMED TO VERIZON ACADEMIC ALL-DISTRICT SECOND TEAM

IRVINE, Calif. --- UC Irvine senior guard Wendy Gabbe (Eugene, Ore./South Eugene HS) has been selected to the 2003 Verizon Academic All-District VIII second team in women's basketball. Gabbe is majoring in English at UCI.

She has been a three-time Big West Conference Scholar-Athlete and is UCI's 2002-03 Big West Conference female Scholar-Athlete of the Year. She is currently averaging 13.3 points per game and leads UCI with 48 three-point field goals.

To be eligible for the award, student-athletes must have at least a 3.20 cumulative grade-point average, must be a starter or important reserve, and be in at least their second season of athletic and academic eligibility at their current school.

January 27, 2003

GABBE NAMED BIG WEST PLAYER OF THE WEEK: Senior guard Wendy Gabbe (Eugene, Ore.) was selected as the Big West Player of the Week after leading UCI to victories over Pacific and Cal State Northridge. Gabbe sunk 6-of-11 (.545) from three-point range in two games. For the week, she averaged 20.0 points, 4.5 rebounds, 2.5 assists and 2.5 steals per game. She played 74 minutes without committing a turnover. It is her second career honor and the fourth for a UCI player this season.

January 13, 2003

CALLAWAY NAMED BIG WEST PLAYER OF THE WEEK: Junior forward Christina Callaway (Shingle Springs, Calif.) was selected as the Big West Player of the Week. It marks the second time she earns the honor this season, making her the first conference player to do so. Callaway recorded two double-doubles last week to run her Big West-leading total to six. Against Cal State Fullerton, she scored 13 points and grabbed a game-high 13 rebounds. Versus UC Riverside,

Callaway scored a career-high 25 points to go along with 10 rebounds. Her 12 field goals against the Highlanders was the most by a Big West player in a game this season. Callaway shot .534 from the field in two games while averaging 2.5 steals per game.

GABBE NAMED FINALIST FOR STUDENT-ATHLETE OF THE YEAR: Senior Wendy Gabbe is one of 31 finalists for the Creamland Dairies Women's Collegiate Basketball Student-Athlete of the Year. The award honors college seniors for their athletic and academic achievement as well as community involvement. The winner will be announced April 9.

November 6, 2002

ANTEATERS PICKED SIXTH BY COACHES; SEVENTH BY MEDIA AT BIG WEST MEDIA DAY

Irvine, CA -- UC Irvine was picked sixth in the coaches poll and seventh in the media poll at the annual Big West Media Day held at the Irvine Marriott, Wednesday.

Defending champion and 25th-ranked UC Santa Barbara was selected first by both the coaches and media.

Coaches Poll	Total (First Place Votes)	Media Poll	Total (First Place Votes)
1. UC Santa Barbara	64 (8)	1. UC Santa Barbara	153 (17)
2. Pacific	53 (1)	2. Pacific	128
3. Long Beach State	46	3. Long Beach State	112
4. Idaho	42	4. UC Riverside	89
5. Cal Poly	33	5. Idaho	79
6. UC IRVINE	32	6. Cal Poly	78
7. UC Riverside	30	7. UC IRVINE	59
8. Cal State Fullerton	15	8. Cal State Fullerton	38
9. Cal State Northridge	9	9. Cal State Northridge	31

October 15, 2002

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL PROVES MAGICAL AT MIDNIGHT

IRVINE, Calif. --- The UC Irvine women's basketball officially opened practice Saturday October 12th with "Midnight Magic" festivities at the Bren Events Center.

After an introduction of each player and layup drills, the women's team took on the men's team in a Battle of the Sexes three-point shooting contest. Courtney Ferguson, Wendy Gabbe and Kristin Thawley battled the men to a tie after the first round. Each team then selected a player from the opposite team to participate in the overtime shoot-off. The men selected 6-4 center Ashley Biggins and the women chose 7-1 center Ryan Codi. Biggins knocked down nine threes to clinch the victory for the women's team. Katie Sturgeon, Kristen Green and Ashley Biggins then voted on the men's dunk contest.