2013 OUTLOOK

The UCLA Baseball team will enter the 2013 season as the two-time defending Pac-12 Conference champions. The Bruins bring back their entire starting rotation from a year ago and other key starting position players as they look to return to the College World Series for the third time in the last four years.

John Savage, who is entering his ninth year as head coach of the Bruins, has led the team to six postseason appearances in his eight seasons at the helm and has brought the program to new heights under his leadership.

A major strength of the 2013 team will come from the pitching staff as juniors Adam Plutko, Nick Vander Tuig and Zack Weiss, and sophomore Grant Watson all return to the starting rotation. Redshirt junior Ryan Deeter and sophomore All-American David Berg are also back to anchor a very strong bullpen. Back in September, the Bruins brought in the No. 2 ranked recruiting class in the country, headlined by freshmen pitchers Cody Poteet, Hunter Virant and James Kaprielian.

"The core strength of our team is pitching," Savage said. "It's a very talented group of juniors and we have two sophomores that came on last year to become All-Americans and All-Conference pitchers. We also have as talented freshman pitching since Gerrit Cole and Trevor Bauer. Our starting pitching will be better than it was last year. Plutko, Vander Tuig, Watson and Weiss will all be better this year. The additions of Poteet, Virant and Kaprielian will add more depth to our staff."

On the other side, UCLA will have to replace five position players from last year's team. Gone are outfielders Jeff Gelalich, Beau Amaral and Cody Keefer, along with catcher Tyler Heineman and versatile infielder Trevor Brown. The Bruins will look to a new group of juniors and underclassmen to fill the void left by those players.

"We lost both catchers and our entire outfield to the MLB Draft," said Savage, "so there will be new players in those positions. We planned for that and we like the guys that are going to come in and do the job."

PITCHING

With all four starting pitchers back from last year, along with two key bullpen guys and a wealth of talented freshmen, the Bruins will boast one of the best pitching staffs top to bottom in the entire country.

It starts with Plutko, who captured All-American honors in 2012 and returns as the ace of the staff in 2013. He went 12-3 with a 2.48 ERA and 99 strikeouts during his sophomore year and enters the spring as a preseason All-American. In two seasons, Plutko has gone 19-7 with a 2.26 ERA while limiting the opposition to just a .205 batting average against him. He's come up even bigger in the postseason, going 4-0 with a 0.88 ERA in four postseason starts, logging 27 strikeouts and just nine walks in 30.2

innings pitched. His O.88 ERA mark and four postseason victories are both UCLA records.

"Plutko has really established himself as one of the top right-handed pitchers in the country," Savage said. "He's thrown over 227 innings the past two seasons and his hits, walks, strikeouts and ERA are ranked among the best in the country. He also led us to our second straight Pac-12 Championship and a trip to Omaha by what he did the last seven weeks of the season. He's stronger, in better shape and we really look for Adam to carry the team on Friday nights."

Vander Tuig will return as UCLA's Saturday starter after winning 10 games a year ago. Vander Tuig struck out 77 batters in 109.2 innings last year while recording a 4.43 ERA and walking just 25 batters. In the postseason, Vander Tuig was even better, going 2-1 with 24 strikeouts in three postseason starts, highlighted by a career-high 11 strikeout performance against New Mexico in the NCAA Los Angeles Regional.

"Nick is a 10-game winner coming off of a tremendous year," Savage said. "He's a four pitch guy who took off down the stretch last season and pitched very well in the postseason."

Four guys will be battling for the Sunday and Tuesday starter spots this spring in Weiss, Watson, Poteet and Virant. Weiss was the Bruins' Sunday starter in 2012, going 3-3 with a 4.28 ERA and 44 strikeouts in 69.1 innings pitched. As a freshman in 2011, Weiss served as UCLA's midweek starter and saw time out of the bullpen, making 22 appearances (nine starts) and going 5-3 with a 2.86 ERA.

Watson, of Bakersfield, Calif., is coming off a stellar freshman season that saw him go 9-2 in 35 apperances (15 starts). He pitched both on Tuesdays and out of the bullpen and tied the school record for single-season wins by a freshman (9). Virant and Poteet are both heralded freshmen who were drafted in the 2012 MLB Draft. Virant, a 6-foot-4 left-hander from Camarillo, Calif., was drafted in the 11th round by the Houston Astros after enjoying a great four-year career at Camarillo High School. Poteet, a 6-foot-1 right-hander, was selected in the 27th round by the Washington Nationals. Both freshmen will look to contribute on the mound right away in 2013.

"Sundays and Tuesdays are a battle right now," Savage said. "It's down to four guys for two spots. We have an experienced junior in Weiss, a left-hander in Watson that's coming off a nine-win season, and two freshmen who could be potential first-rounders down the road in Poteet and Virant. It's going to be a battle."

The Bruins also boast a deep bullpen led by sophomore All-American David Berg. Berg established the Pac-12 and UCLA record for single-season appearances (50), one shy of the NCAA Division I all-time single-season record, as a

freshman in 2012 and led the Pac-12 with a 1.46 ERA in 74 innings pitched. As a sidearm right-hander, Berg will look to build off of the success of his freshman season and continue to be a major contributor in the later innings for the Bruins

Redshirt junior Ryan Deeter also returns after sporting a 0.89 ERA last season in 36 relief appearances. Freshman James Kaprielian will make an impact in the bullpen as well after having an outstanding career as a starter at Beckman High School in Irvine, Calif.

"We like our bullpen," Savage said. "Kaprielian, Berg and Deeter will look to close the game out. We've had a lot of success in the last two or three innings of the game and look to continue that trend this year."

CATCHERS

Having lost 2012 All-Pac-12 selection Tyler Heineman and fellow catcher Trevor Brown, the Bruins will look to a new group of players to fill the void behind the plate.

"We had two of the best catchers in the country last year with Heineman and Brown and we've got a lot of guys on this team that could potentially contribute," Savage said.

One of the leading candidates to take over the catcher spot is sophomore Shane Zeile, who is a converted infielder entering his first season as a catcher. Zeile proved to be one of UCLA's most versatile players in 2012, playing in 33 games at first base, second base, designated hitter and as a relief pitcher. He batted .371 in 62 plate apperances as a freshman, recording 10 RBI. Zeile also is coming off of an impressive summer where he hit a team-leading .324 in 28 games for the Walla Walla Sweets of the West Coast Collegiate League.

Also looking to compete for playing time behind the plate will be freshman Darrell Miller Jr. The 6-foot-2 product from Yorba Linda, Calif. enjoyed a great four-year career at Servite High School in Anaheim, Calif., and was selected in the 34th round of the 2012 MLB Draft by the Philladelphia Phillies. Additionally, redshirt freshman Justin Hazard will compete for time at the catcher position.

"We really like our versatility back there with two righthanded hitters and one left-handed hitter," Savage said. "Zeile is the most experienced offensive player of the group so right now he's leading the charge."

INFIELD

The Bruins return a wealth of experience in the infield, returning four players that have seen extensive time in the infield over their careers.

Senior Cody Regis returns to man first base after being one of UCLA's best power hitters the last three years. As a freshman in 2010, Regis batted .312 with nine homers,



17 doubles, 47 RBI and 41 runs. As a sophomore in 2011, he batted .284 with six homers, 10 doubles, 45 RBI and 20 runs. Regis will enter his senior year with a .278 batting average and 16 home runs in 178 games played.

"Regis has played in the most postseason games in the history of the program and is a very experienced player," Savage said. "He's been a part of two Pac-12 Championship teams, two College World Series teams and he's really seen it all. He's the only senior in our program in the last two years and we expect big things out of him this coming season."

Junior Pat Gallagher will also push for playing time at first base after making a big impression during the fall. Gallagher is in his third season in Westwood and is expected to make a much bigger impact this spring.

"Pat Gallagher has made tremendous strides," said Savage. "He's been swinging the bat well this fall and has gotten much better defensively. We look for him to compete for playing time at first base."

Junior Kevin Williams returns at second base this season after making 49 starts at the position a year ago. Williams enjoyed a great sophomore campaign, hitting .302 with two home runs, 21 RBI and 28 runs all while playing stellar defense at second base. Williams is currently battling a shoulder injury, but will likely return to the field soon.

"Kevin Williams is one of the better athletes in our program," said Savage. "He really played well at second base down the stretch last season. He got hurt the first day of fall, but we look forward to having him back by the first week in March. He had the big home run against Arizona State last year and he's another very experienced player that will lead our infield."

With Williams injured to start the season, freshman Trent Chatterton will step into the second base position in Williams' absence. Chatterton can play multiple positions and is coming off of a great four-year career at Pacifica High School.

"Chatterton is a very versatile athlete who will bring depth to our infield," Savage said. "He is a very steady player who will only get better with playing time."

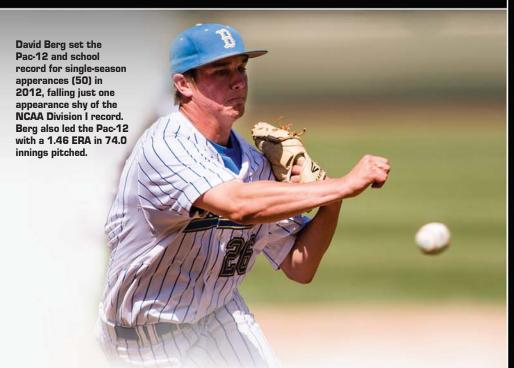
Sophomore Kevin Kramer returns to third base again in his second year as a starter. In his freshman year, Kramer hit .281 with five doubles, 13 RBI and 18 runs. Kramer stepped up his game in the postseason, leading the Bruins with a .385 batting average in postseason play while notching three doubles, three runs and five RBI. He continued his torrid pace into the summer, leading the La Crosse Loggers to the Northwoods Summer League title after hitting .339 with 21 RBI for the club.

"We're looking for Kramer to establish himself at third base," Savage said. "He has made tremendous strides as a player. He had an outstanding summer in the Northwoods League and has really gotten his body into the best shape of his career. He had clutch hits in the postseason and we think he can maintain that throughout the entire year."

The shortstop position appears to be solidified as junior Pat Valaika enters his third year as the starting shortstop. Valaika has played in 114 games the past two years, all of which came at shortstop, and will be the cornerstone of the infield in 2013. He increased his average from .238 as a freshman to .266 as a sophomore and is expected to be an even bigger run producer this spring. As one of the team captains, Valaika will undoubtedly be one of the leaders of the team.

"Pat is one of the more experienced players in our program," Savage said. "He has been one of the most consistent players in his first two years and is the strength of our ballclub. He can catch it, he can throw it and he can lead the team. He's the quarterback out there and we really like his presence. He had a good summer with the Chatham Anglers in the Cape Cod League and we expect big things from him this year."

Sophomore Chris Keck will add depth in the infield while seeing time at the designated hitter position. Keck spent most of his freshman season as a utility player off the bench, but proved to be a big threat in the lineup, batting .293 in 28 games while going 6-16 as a pinch hitter. He



will be counted on to step up and play a much larger role in 2013.

"Chris Keck is a left-handed power threat who's a middle of the lineup type hitter," said Savage. "He has a plus arm in the field and is continuing to improve his fielding skills. He possesses two major league tools in his power and his arm. We're looking for him to be an everyday defender."

OUTFIELD

Returning players Brian Carroll, Brenton Allen and Eric Filia will all look to fill the outfield spots while redshirt freshman Christoph Bono and true freshman Ty Moore will compete for playing time as well.

Juniors Carroll and Allen are entering their third year in the program and will look to emerge into greater roles this spring. Allen, who was a ninth round draft pick of the Phillies out of Gahr High School, has hit .292 in 25 games over the past two seasons and will look to be an offensive threat from the left-side of the plate. Carroll is a plus defender with plus speed who is poised to have a strong year in center field.

Filia provides a strong, left-handed presence at the plate as he enters his sophomore year. He hit .245 with eight RBI last season, but had a breakout summer, leading the Wisconsin Woodchucks of the Northwoods League with a .383 batting average, 32 runs, 37 RBI and 24 stolen bases in 39 games.

Moore, a Mission Viejo native, enjoyed an outstanding fouryear high school career at Mater Dei High School in Santa Ana, Calif. He was twice named the Orange County Player of the Year (2011-12) and was named the Gatorade State Player of the Year as a senior in 2012. Moore was also selected in the 25th round of the 2012 MLB Draft by the Yankees, but decided to take the opportunity to play at UCLA instead.

Bono was a two-sport athlete in 2012, playing both football and baseball for the Bruins. This year, he has chosen to focus on baseball and is expected to push for playing time in the outfield.

"Our outfield situation is very similar to our catching situation," Savage said. "We lost three really good players in Amaral, Gelalich and Keefer, so there will be an adjustment. We've got Allen and Moore in left, Carroll and Bono in center, and Filia in right. The outfield is going to have a different look to it, but we have some young, talented players that we are excited about."

THE SCHEDULE

UCLA's 56-game regular season includes 30 Pac-12 Conference games against ten conference opponents.

The Bruins open the season with four weekends of nonconference play. UCLA will open the season with a threegame home series against Minnesota from Feb. 15-17 before making their first ever visit to Waco, Tex. to take on Baylor in a three-game series from Feb. 22-24. The Bruins will also host Wright State for the first time in program history from March 1-3 and play a non-conference game against Notre Dame on March 8.

UCLA will also play 15 games against teams ranked in the Baseball America preseason top-25. The Bruins will play three-game series against conference foes Oregon, Stanford, Oregon State and Arizona. Additionally, UCLA will play a two-game set against Cal State Fullerton and one game against Oklahoma. As in previous years, the Bruins will play a very competitive midweek schedule, lined with non-conference games against Hawaii, Cal State Northridge, Fullerton, UC Santa Barbara, Long Beach State and UC Irvine. UCLA will also play a non-conference weekend series against Loyola Marymount at Jackie Robinson Stadium from April 12-14.

The Bruins will open up Pac-12 play with a three-game series versus Washington from March 15-17. UCLA will also host three-game Pac-12 series against California (March 22-24), Oregon State (April 5-7), Utah (May 3-5) and defending NCAA Champion Arizona (May 10-12). The Bruins will face a tough Pac-12 road slate as well that includes trips to Arizona State (March 28-30), Oregon (April 13-15), Washington State (April 26-28), USC (May 17-19) and Stanford (May 24-26).

UCLA's last seven schedules have been ranked among the top-five-most difficult in the country, as ranked by Boyd's World (strength of schedule ranking service, boydsworld. com). The Bruins' schedule was ranked No. 1 in 2006 and 2010, No. 2 in 2007, No. 3 in 2008 and 2009, No. 4 in 2012 and No. 5 in 2011. In addition, UCLA's RPI has been ranked in the top-five two of the last three seasons. The Bruins were No. 1 in 2012 and No. 5 in 2010.

"We pride ourselves on our schedule," Savage said. "Our RPI was No. 1 last year and that's really a difficult task to accomplish. To win the Pac-12 the last two years is an exciting accomplishment, but every season provides a new challenge. With Minnesota, Baylor, Notre Dame, Oklahoma and all of the Southern California teams like Long Beach, Fullerton, Santa Barbara, Irvine and Northridge, our RPI is going to be very good again. The conference takes care of itself with regards to RPI. You have four or five teams in the tep 25 and it just says a lot about our conference. It's a very difficult schedule. We think it prepares us for not only the Pac-12, but hopefully the postseason."

NUMERICAL ROSTER

No.	Name	Pos.	Yr.	B/T	Ht.	Wt.	Ехр.	Hometown (Previous School)						
1	Jeff Turley	OF	Fr.	L/R	5-11	187	HS	Long Beach, Calif. (Long Beach Poly HS)						
3	Christoph Bono	OF	RS Fr.	L/R	6-1	170	1V	Palo Alto, Calif. (Palo Alto HS)						
4	Eric Filia	OF	So.	L/R	6-0	180	1V	Huntington Beach, Calif. (Edison HS)						
5	Kevin Williams	INF	Jr.	L/R	6-0	195	2V	Van Nuys, Calif. (Crespi HS)						
7	Kevin Kramer	INF	So.	L/R	6-0	197	1V	Turlock, Calif. (Turlock HS)						
8	Trent Chatterton	INF	Fr.	R/R	5-8	170	HS	Garden Grove, Calif. (Pacifica HS)						
9	Adam Plutko	RHP	Jr.	R/R	6-3	192	2V	Glendora, Calif. (Glendora HS)						
10	Pat Valaika	INF	Jr.	R/R	5-11	206	2V	Valencia, Calif. (Hart HS)						
11	James Kaprielian	RHP	Fr.	R/R	6-4	195	HS	Tustin, Calif. (Beckman HS)						
12	Grant Watson	LHP	So.	L/L	6-0	185	1V	Bakersfield, Calif. (Centennial HS)						
14	Shane Zeile	C/INF	So.	R/R	6-1	188	1V	Valencia, Calif. (Valencia HS)						
16	Nick Kern	RHP	Fr.	R/R	5-11	184	HS	Brea, Calif. (Brea Olinda HS)						
18	Cody Regis	INF	Sr.	L/R	6-2	235	3V	Glendora, Calif. (Glendora HS)						
21	Nick Vander Tuig	RHP	Jr.	R/R	6-3	195	2V	Oakdale, Calif. (Oakdale HS)						
23	Brenton Allen	OF	Jr.	L/L	6-1	225	2V	Cerritos, Calif. (Gahr HS)						
24	Brian Carroll	OF	Jr.	R/R	5-10	177	2V	San Diego, Calif. (Granite Hills HS)						
25	Chris Keck	INF	So.	L/R	6-2	205	1V	Pleasanton, Calif. (Amador Valley HS)						
26	David Berg	RHP	So.	R/R	6-0	190	1V	Covina, Calif. (Bishop Amat HS)						
27	Pat Gallagher	INF	Jr.	L/R	6-2	224	2V	Reno, Nev. (Reno HS)						
28	Justin Hazard	INF	RS Fr.	L/R	6-2	191	1V	Tusitn, Calif. (Beckman HS)						
29	Ty Moore	OF	Fr.	L/R	6-0	190	1V	Mission Viejo, Calif. (Mater Dei HS)						
30	Jake Ehret	RHP	RS Fr.	R/R	6-3	207	1V	San Dimas, Calif. (San Dimas HS)						
31	Darrell Miller Jr.	С	Fr.	R/R	6-2	238	HS	Yorba Linda, Calif. (Servite HS)						
32	Zack Weiss	RHP	Jr.	R/R	6-3	210	2V	Irvine, Calif. (Northwood HS)						
33	Hunter Virant	LHP	Fr.	R/L	6-4	180	HS	Camarillo, Calif. (Camaraillo HS)						
34	Cody Poteet	RHP	Fr.	R/R	6-1	191	HS	Bonita, Calif. (Christian HS)						
35	Chase Radan	RHP	Fr.	R/R	6-4	184	HS	Tustin, Calif. (Mater Dei HS)						
38	Tyler Scott	OF	RS Fr.	R/R	6-2	220	RS	Novato, Calif. (Marin Catholic HS)						
40	Ryan Deeter	RHP	RS Jr.	R/R	6-0	180	2V	Newark, Calif. (Newark Memorial HS)						
44	Brett Urabe	INF	Fr.	R/R	5-10	170	HS	Huntington Beach, Calif. (Huntington Beach HS)						
45	Max Schuh	LHP	RS So.	L/L	6-4	205	1V	Fresno, Calif. (Edison HS)						
47	Aaron Weimer	С	RS Jr.	L/R	5-11	183	2V	Fresno, Calif. (Bullard HS)						
48	Tucker Forbes	RHP	Fr.	R/R	6-9	210	HS	Pebble Beach, Calif. (Stevenson School)						
Coa	ching Staff													
	1121 - 1211						ohn Savage Head Coach (9th season) Nevada '91							

19 Jake Silverman Assistant Coach (3rd season)

BREAKDOWN BY CLASS

17 Rex Peters

2 T.J. Bruce

Freshmen (15) Christoph Bono[^] Trent Chatterton Jake Ehret^ Tucker Forbes Justin Hazard[^] James Kaprielian Nick Kern Darrell Miller Jr. Ty Moore Cody Poteet Chase Radan Tyler Scott[^] Jeff Turley Brett Urabe Hunter Virant redshirt freshman

Sophomores (7) David Berg Eric Filia Chris Keck Kevin Kramer Max Schuh[^] Grant Watson Shane Zeile

Brenton Allen Brian Carroll Ryan Deeter^ Pat Gallagher Adam Plutko Pat Valaika Nick Vander Tuig Aaron Weimer^ ^ redshirt sophomore Zack Weiss Kevin Williams ^ redshirt junior

Juniors (10)

Assistant Coach (2nd season)

Assistant Coach (3rd season)

Seniors (1) Cody Regis

Cal State Fullerton '89

Long Beach State '04

Cal State Fullerton '10

California (32)

Orange County (10) Chatterton, Filia, Hazard, Kaprielian, Kern, Miller Jr., Moore, Radan, Urabe, Weiss Los Angeles County (9) Allen, Berg, Ehret, Plutko, Regis, Turley, Valaika, Williams, Zeile Alameda County (2) Deeter, Keck San Diego County (2)

Carroll, Poteet Stanislaus County (2) Kramer, Vander Tuig

BREAKDOWN BY STATE, COUNTY Fresno County (2)

Schuh, Weimer Kern County (1) Watson Marin County (1) Monterey County (1)

Santa Clara County (1) Ventura County (1)

Virant

No. Name Position 23 Brenton Allen OF 26 David Berg RHP 3 Christoph Bono OF 24 Brian Carroll OF 8 Trent Chatterton INF 40 Ryan Deeter RHP 30 Jake Ehret RHP 4 Eric Filia OF 48 Tucker Forbes RHP 27 Pat Gallagher INF 28 Justin Hazard INF/C RHP 11 James Kaprielian 25 Chris Keck INF 16 Nick Kern RHP 7 Kevin Kramer INF 31 Darrell Miller Jr. С OF 29 Ty Moore 9 Adam Plutko RHP RHP 34 Cody Poteet Chase Radan RHP 18 Cody Regis INF 45 Max Schuh LHP OF 38 Tyler Scott OF Jeff Turley Brett Urabe 44 INF 10 Pat Valaika INF 21 Nick Vander Tuig RHP 33 Hunter Virant LHP 12 Grant Watson LHP 47 Aaron Weimer С 32 Zack Weiss RHP 5 Kevin Williams INF C/INF 14 Shane Zeile

ALPHABETICAL ROSTER

Pronunciation Guide

Christoph Bono	KRIHS-tawf BOH-noh
Ehret	AIR-et
Kaprielian	kah-PREEL-ee-an
Poteet	POH-teet
Radan	RAY-den
Schuh	SH00
Urabe	yoo-RAH-bee
Vander Tuig	VÁN-der TYGH
Virant	vur-ANT
Weimer	WY-mer
7eile	7FF-ill

Nevada (1)

Pat Gallagher

RADIO/TV ROSTER



Jeff Turley 5-11, <u>187 – OF – Freshman</u>



3 Christoph Bono 6-1, 170 – 0F – RS Freshman



4 6-0, 180 - 0F - Sophomore



5



Kevin Williams 6-0, 195 – INF – Junior 7 6-0, 197 – INF – Sophomore



8 Trent Chatterton 5-8, 170 – INF – Freshman



Adam Plutko 6-3, 192 <u>– RHP – Junior</u>



Pat Valaika 10 5-11, 206 – INF – Junior











Cody Regis 6-2, 235 – INF – Senior 18



Nick Vander Tuig 6-3, 195 – RHP – Junior 21



Brenton Allen 53 6-1, 225 – OF – Junior



Brian Carroll 24 5-10, 177 – OF – Junior



25 6-2, 205 – INF – Sophomore Chris Keck



David Berg 26 6-0, 190 - RHP - Sophomore



Pat Gallagher



28 Justin Hazard 6-0, 191 - INF - RS Freshman 6-0, 190 - OF - Freshman





Jake Ehret 30 6-3, 207 - RHP - RS Freshman



31 Darrell Miller Jr. 32 6-2, 238 – C – Freshman



Zack Weiss 6-3, 210 - RHP - Junior



Hunter Virant 6-4, 180 – LHP – Freshman **33**



34 Cody Poteet 6-1, 191 - RHP - Freshman



35 Chase Radan 6-4, 184 - RHP - Freshman







38 Tyler Scott 40 Ryan Deeter 60, 180 - RHP - RS Junior 44 5:10, 170 - INF - Freshman



Max Schuh 45 _{6-4, 205 – LHP – RS Sophomore}



47 Aaron Weimer 5-11, 183 – C – RS Junior



48 Tucker Forbes 6-9, 210 - RHP - Freshman