

# UCLA

2007 Men's Soccer  
Media Guide

1985, 1990, 1997, 2002 NCAA Champions

24 Consecutive NCAA Tournament Appearances  
12 College Cup Appearances

Over 2,000 U.S. National Team Caps

Celebrating 40 Years Of Excellence



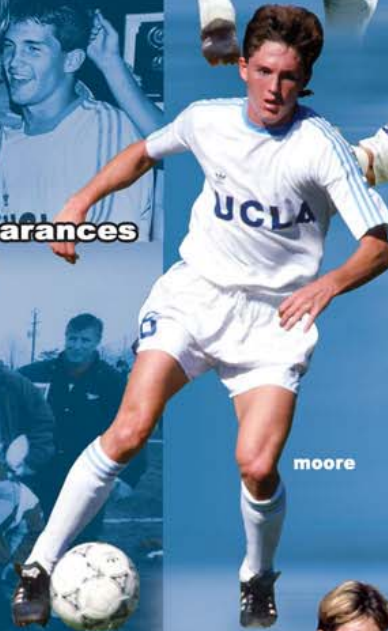
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moore



lewis



victorine



bocanegra



bornstein



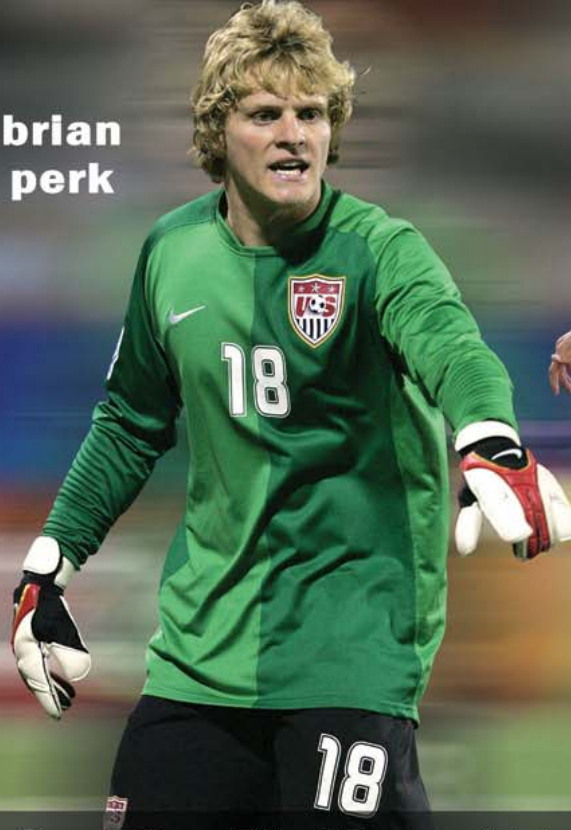
feilhaber





**tony  
beltran**

**brian  
perk**



**sal  
zizzo**

**Bruins On The National Team  
FIFA Under-20 World Cup Quarterfinalists  
2007 CONCACAF Gold Cup Champions**



**benny feilhaber**



**jonathan  
bornstein**

**frankie  
hejduk**



**carlos bocanegra**



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## 2007 UCLA Schedule

Aug. 25 at North Carolina State (Ex.) 4:00 pm ET

*IU Credit Union/adidas Classic - Bloomington, IN*

Aug. 31 vs. Notre Dame 5:00 pm ET

Sept. 2 at Indiana 2:00 pm ET

Sept. 8 at Creighton 7:00 pm CT

**Sept. 14 OHIO STATE 7:00 pm**

**Sept. 16 PENN STATE 2:00 pm**

Sept. 20 at San Francisco 7:00 pm

Sept. 22 at Santa Clara 7:00 pm

Sept. 29 at Cal State Northridge 4:00 pm

**Oct. 2 SAN DIEGO 7:00 pm**

Oct. 6 at San Diego State\* 2:00 pm

**Oct. 12 STANFORD\* 7:30 pm**

**Oct. 14 CALIFORNIA\* 2:30 pm**

Oct. 19 at Oregon State\* 7:30 pm

Oct. 21 at Washington\* 1:00 pm

**Oct. 26 OREGON STATE\* 5:00 pm**

**Oct. 28 WASHINGTON\* 1:00 pm**

Nov. 2 at Stanford\* 7:30 pm

Nov. 4 at California\* 2:30 pm

**Nov. 17 SAN DIEGO STATE\* 7:00 pm**

*NCAA Tournament*

Nov. 23-24 NCAA First Round TBD

Nov. 28 NCAA Second Round TBD

Dec. 1-2 NCAA Third Round TBD

Dec. 7-9 NCAA Quarterfinals TBD

Dec. 14 NCAA Semifinals (Cary, NC) TBD

Dec. 16 NCAA Finals (Cary, NC) TBD

Home games are played at Frank W. Marshall Field at Drake Stadium and are indicated by **BOLD CAPS**

\* Denotes Pac-10 Conference games

All times are Pacific unless otherwise indicated.



## About This Publication

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**uclaBruins.com**

Brandon Owens



## Quick Facts

Location..... J.D. Morgan Center,  
..... 325 Westwood Plaza  
..... Los Angeles, CA 90095  
Athletics Phone ..... (310) 825-8699  
Ticket Office ..... (310) UCLA-WIN  
Chancellor ..... Gene Block  
Director of Athletics ..... Daniel G. Guerrero  
Sr. Asso. Athletic Director (Soccer)..... Ken Weiner  
Faculty Athletic Rep. .... Donald Morrison  
Home Field (Capacity) ..... Frank W. Marshall Field  
..... at Drake Stadium (11,700)  
Home Record ..... 201-25-14 (Since 1980)  
Enrollment ..... 37,500  
Founded..... 1919  
Colors..... Blue and Gold  
Nickname..... Bruins  
Conference..... Pacific-10  
Conference Phone ..... (925) 932-4411  
Conference Fax ..... (925) 932-4601  
National Affiliation ..... NCAA Division I  
Head Coach (Alma Mater)..... Jorge Salcedo  
..... (UCLA '02)  
Coach's Phone ..... (310) 825-1777  
Record at UCLA ..... 40-15-9 (3 years)  
Career Record (Years)..... same  
Assistant Coaches..... Eddie Soto, David Comfort,  
..... Jose Lopez (volunteer)  
2006 Record..... 14-6-4  
2006 Pac-10 Record (Finish) ..... 4-3-3 (4th)  
2006 NCAA Finish ..... NCAA Finalist  
Letterwinners Returning/Lost..... 22/4  
Starters Returning/Lost ..... 8/3  
National Championships ..... 1985, 1990, 1997, 2002  
Sports Information Director ..... Marc Dellins  
Men's Soccer SID ..... Liza David  
Sports Information Phone..... (310) 206-8140  
Sports Information FAX ..... (310) 825-8664  
E-Mail Address ..... ldavid@athletics.ucla.edu  
Web Site..... www.uclabruins.com  
Athletic FanFone ..... (310) 825-8575

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The UCLA Experience..... i



# Radio/TV Roster



**00 Kevin Weiner**  
Gk • 6-0/170 • Fr.  
Manhattan Beach, CA  
(Mira Costa HS)



**1 Brian Perk**  
Gk • 5-11/175 • So.  
Rancho Santa Margarita, CA  
(Edison Academic Center)



**2 Jason Leopoldo**  
Mf • 5-7/145 • Jr.  
Thousand Oaks, CA  
(Thousand Oaks HS)



**3 Brad Rusin**  
D • 6-4/200 • Jr.  
Holmes Beach, FL  
(St. Stephen's Prep)



**4 Edwige Ligondé**  
D • 6-0/185 • RJr.  
Fresno, CA  
(Buchanan HS)



**5 Mike Zaher**  
D • 5-10/165 • Sr.  
Las Vegas, NV  
(Bishop Gorman HS)



**6 Sean Alvarado**  
D • 6-3/190 • Jr.  
West Orange, NJ  
(St. Benedict's Prep)



**7 Chance Myers**  
D • 6-0/160 • So.  
Thousand Oaks, CA  
(Thousand Oaks HS)



**9 Tony Beltran**  
Mf • 5-9/150 • Jr.  
Claremont, CA  
(St. John's Univ./Claremont HS)



**10 Kyle Nakazawa**  
Mf • 5-11/165 • So.  
Palos Verdes Estates, CA  
(Edison Academic Center)



**11 Maxwell Griffin**  
F • 6-0/175 • Jr.  
Palmdale, CA  
(Littlerock HS)



**12 Tomer Konowiecki**  
Mf • 5-7/150 • Jr.  
Long Beach, CA  
(American/Long Beach Poly HS)



**13 Michael Stephens**  
Mf • 5-9/155 • So.  
Naperville, IL  
(Edison Academic Center)



**14 Brandon Owens**  
D • 6-1/170 • RSr.  
Murrieta, CA  
(Edison Academic Center)



**15 Robert Georgiefski**  
F/Mf • 6-0/180 • RFr.  
Austin, TX  
(Leander HS)



**16 Greg Folk**  
Mf • 5-9/165 • Sr.  
Woodland Hills, CA  
(Edison Academic Center)



**17 Andrew Sinderhoff**  
Mf • 5-11/150 • So.  
Coto de Caza, CA  
(Santa Margarita HS)



**18 Trevor Hunter**  
Gk • 6-3/205 • RFr.  
Chino Hills, CA  
(Ayala HS)



**19 Brian Rowe**  
Gk • 6-1/175 • Fr.  
Eugene, OR  
(South Eugene HS)



**20 James Jaramillo**  
Mf • 6-0/170 • So.  
Orem, UT  
(Mountain View HS)



**21 Ryan White**  
D • 6-2/195 • So.  
Eugene, OR  
(South Eugene HS)



**22 Kyle McAthy**  
F • 6-0/170 • Fr.  
Huntington Beach, CA  
(Huntington Beach HS)



**23 Patrick Rickards**  
D/Mf • 5-9/155 • So.  
Sacramento, CA  
(Jesuit HS)



**24 David Estrada**  
F • 5-8/160 • So.  
Salinas, CA  
(Alisal HS)



**25 Fernando De Alba**  
D • 6-1/175 • Fr.  
Stockton, CA  
(St. Mary's HS)



**26 Mikey Meschures**  
Mf • 5-10/155 • Jr.  
Beverly Hills, CA  
(Beverly Hills HS)



**27 Danny Suits**  
D/Mf • 5-10/160 • So.  
Los Alamitos, CA  
(Los Alamitos HS)



**28 Scott Hollingshead**  
D • 6-3/175 • Jr.  
Granite Bay, CA  
(Granite Bay HS)



**Head Coach**  
**Jorge Salcedo**  
4th Year  
(UCLA '02)



# 2007 Roster

## Numerical

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Yr.	Hometown (Previous School)
00	Kevin Weiner	Gk	6-0	170	Fr.	Manhattan Beach, CA (Mira Costa HS)
1	Brian Perk	Gk	5-11	175	So.	Rancho Santa Margarita, CA (Edison Academic Center)
2	Jason Leopoldo	Mf	5-7	145	Jr.	Thousand Oaks, CA (Thousand Oaks HS)
3	Brad Rusin	D	6-4	200	Jr.	Holmes Beach, FL (St. Stephen's Prep)
4	Edwige Ligondé	D	6-0	185	RJr.	Fresno, CA (Buchanan HS)
5	Mike Zaher	D	5-10	165	Sr.	Las Vegas, NV (Bishop Gorman HS)
6	Sean Alvarado	D	6-3	190	Jr.	West Orange, NJ (St. Benedict's Prep)
7	Chance Myers	D	6-0	160	So.	Thousand Oaks, CA (Thousand Oaks HS)
9	Tony Beltran	Mf	5-9	150	Jr.	Claremont, CA (St. John's University/Claremont HS)
10	Kyle Nakazawa	Mf	5-11	165	So.	Palos Verdes Estates, CA (Edison Academic Center)
11	Maxwell Griffin	F	6-0	175	Jr.	Palmdale, CA (Littlerock HS)
12	Tomer Konowiecki	Mf	5-7	150	Jr.	Long Beach, CA (American University/Long Beach Poly HS)
13	Michael Stephens	Mf	5-9	155	So.	Naperville, IL (Edison Academic Center)
14	Brandon Owens	D	6-1	170	RSr.	Murrieta, CA (Edison Academic Center)
15	Robert Georgiefski	F/Mf	6-0	180	RFr.	Austin, TX (Leander HS)
16	Greg Folk	D	5-9	165	Sr.	Woodland Hills, CA (Edison Academic Center)
17	Andrew Sinderhoff	Mf	5-11	150	So.	Coto de Caza, CA (Santa Margarita HS)
18	Trevor Hunter	Gk	6-3	205	RFr.	Chino Hills, CA (Ayala HS)
19	Brian Rowe	GK	6-1	175	Fr.	Eugene, OR (South Eugene HS)
20	James Jaramillo	Mf	6-0	170	So.	Orem, UT (Mountain View HS)
21	Ryan White	D	6-2	195	So.	Eugene, OR (South Eugene HS)
22	Kyle McAthy	F	6-0	170	Fr.	Huntington Beach, CA (Huntington Beach HS)
23	Patrick Rickards	D/Mf	5-9	155	So.	Sacramento, CA (Jesuit HS)
24	David Estrada	F	5-8	160	So.	Salinas, CA (Alisal HS)
25	Fernando De Alba	D	6-1	175	Fr.	Stockton, CA (St. Mary's HS)
26	Mikey Meschures	Mf	5-10	155	Jr.	Beverly Hills, CA (Beverly Hills HS)
27	Danny Suits	D/Mf	5-10	160	So.	Los Alamitos, CA (Los Alamitos HS)
28	Scott Hollingshead	D	6-3	175	Jr.	Granite Bay, CA (Granite Bay HS)

## Alphabetical

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Yr.	Hometown (Previous School)
6	Sean Alvarado	D	6-3	190	Jr.	West Orange, NJ (St. Benedict's Prep)
9	Tony Beltran	Mf	5-9	150	Jr.	Claremont, CA (St. John's University/Claremont HS)
25	Fernando De Alba	D	6-1	175	Fr.	Stockton, CA (St. Mary's HS)
24	David Estrada	F	5-8	160	So.	Salinas, CA (Alisal HS)
16	Greg Folk	D	5-9	165	Sr.	Woodland Hills, CA (Edison Academic Center)
15	Robert Georgiefski	F/Mf	6-0	180	RFr.	Austin, TX (Leander HS)
11	Maxwell Griffin	F	6-0	175	Jr.	Palmdale, CA (Littlerock HS)
28	Scott Hollingshead	D	6-3	175	Jr.	Granite Bay, CA (Granite Bay HS)
18	Trevor Hunter	Gk	6-3	205	RFr.	Chino Hills, CA (Ayala HS)
20	James Jaramillo	Mf	6-0	170	So.	Orem, UT (Mountain View HS)
12	Tomer Konowiecki	Mf	5-7	150	Jr.	Long Beach, CA (American Univ./Long Beach Poly HS)
2	Jason Leopoldo	Mf	5-7	145	Jr.	Thousand Oaks, CA (Thousand Oaks HS)
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22	Kyle McAthy	F	6-0	170	Fr.	Huntington Beach, CA (Huntington Beach HS)
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14	Brandon Owens	D	6-1	170	RSr.	Murrieta, CA (Edison Academic Center)
1	Brian Perk	Gk	5-11	175	So.	Rancho Santa Margarita, CA (Edison Academic Center)
23	Patrick Rickards	D/Mf	5-9	155	So.	Sacramento, CA (Jesuit HS)
19	Brian Rowe	GK	6-1	175	Fr.	Eugene, OR (South Eugene HS)
3	Brad Rusin	D	6-4	200	Jr.	Holmes Beach, FL (St. Stephen's Prep)
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13	Michael Stephens	Mf	5-9	155	So.	Naperville, IL (Edison Academic Center)
27	Danny Suits	D/Mf	5-10	160	So.	Los Alamitos, CA (Los Alamitos HS)
00	Kevin Weiner	Gk	6-0	170	Fr.	Manhattan Beach, CA (Mira Costa HS)
21	Ryan White	D	6-2	195	So.	Eugene, OR (South Eugene HS)
5	Mike Zaher	D	5-10	165	Sr.	Las Vegas, NV (Bishop Gorman HS)

**Head Coach:** Jorge Salcedo, 4th year

**Assistant Coaches:** Eddie Soto, David Comfort, Jose Lopez (volunteer)

**Team Managers:** Harry Meschures, Beto Nevarez

**Staff Athletic Trainer:** Tandi Hawkey

**Student Athletic Trainers:** Samantha Suey, Roger Zhao

**Equipment Manager:** Sean Markus

## Squad Breakdown

Seniors (3)

Juniors (9)

Sophomores (10)

Freshmen (6)

From California: 20

From Florida: 1

From Illinois: 1

From Nevada: 1

From New Jersey: 1

From Oregon: 2

From Texas: 1

From Utah: 1

Oldest: Mike Zaher, born 9-24-85

Youngest: Fernando De Alba, born 11-13-89

Tallest: Brad Rusin, 6-4

Shortest: Jason Leopoldo, Tomer Konowiecki, 5-7

## In-Season Birthdays

Sept. 5 - Brad Rusin, 21st

Sept. 17 - Maxwell Griffin, 20th

Sept. 20 - Sean Alvarado, 20th

Sept. 24 - Mike Zaher, 22nd

Oct. 11 - Tony Beltran, 20th

Oct. 23 - Kevin Weiner, 18th

Nov. 10 - Andrew Sinderhoff, 20th

Nov. 12 - Ryan White, 20th

Nov. 13 - Fernando De Alba, 18th

Nov. 16 - Brian Rowe, 19th

## Pronunciations

**Robert Georgiefski**

George-EFF-ski

**James Jaramillo**

jare-a-MELLOW

**Tomer Konowiecki**

Co-nov-YET-ski

**Jason Leopoldo**

Leo-POLL-doh

**Edwige Ligonde**

ED-widge Li-GONE-day

**Kyle McAthy**

Mc-AY-thee

**Mikey Meschures**

meh-SURE-es

**Patrick Rickards**

RICK-urds

**Brad Rusin**

RUSS-in

**Kevin Weiner**

WHY-ner

**Mike Zaher**

ZAY-er

**Jorge Salcedo**

HORE-hay Sal-SAY-do

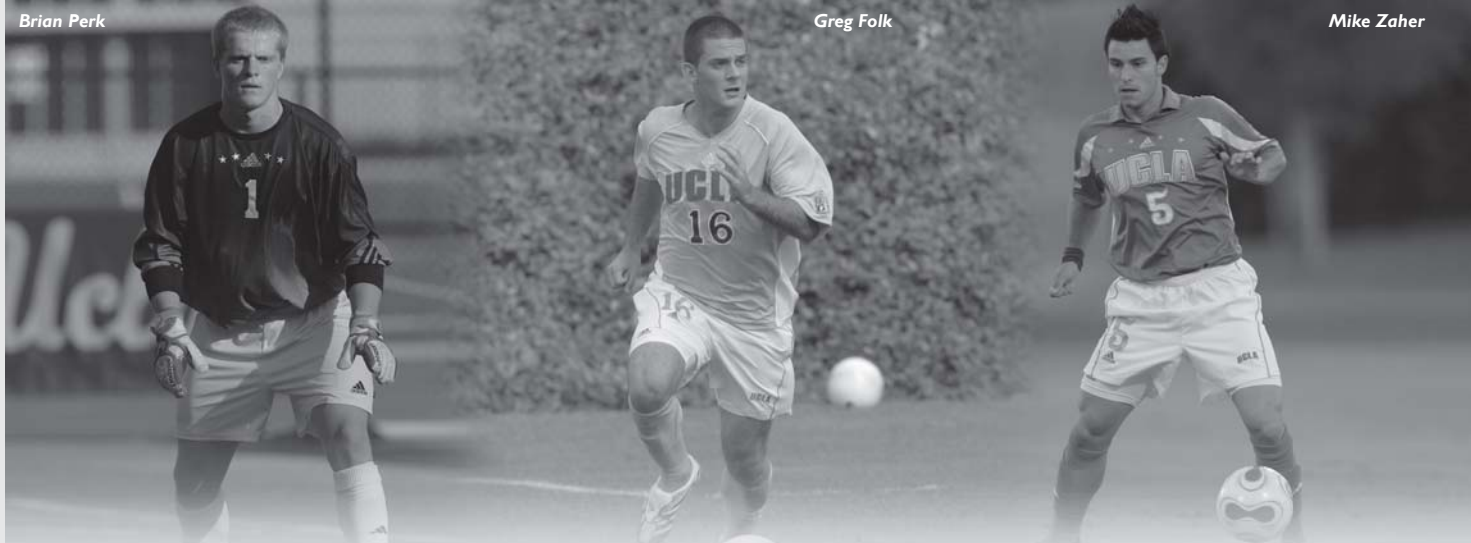


# Season Outlook

Brian Perk

Greg Folk

Mike Zaher



The UCLA men's soccer team enters the season with a simple approach of improving upon last year's results. But considering that last year saw a young Bruin squad advance all the way to the NCAA Championship game, a little improvement could go a long way in 2007.

With a vastly deep lineup, led by eight returning starters, not to mention two would-be starters last year who were sidelined with injuries, this Bruin team, ranked No. 1 in the pre-season, is fully loaded and on a mission to claim the national title they came so close to winning last winter.

"Our team for 2007 is one that is very deep, very experienced to an extent, and, most importantly, very hungry to improve upon last season," said UCLA head coach Jorge Salcedo. "Our mentality that we hope to build throughout the year is to have our season be improved just a little bit in all facets, from our approach in training, to our approach to games, from the beginning of the season to the post-season. I think the team knows that if we have a similar season we'll be successful. But if we do things a little bit better, we could achieve great things."

With a year of experience under their belts, last year's predominantly under-class squad is a year older and a year wiser, and they know what it takes to succeed. Salcedo notes that teamwork and camaraderie are two important ingredients to success.

"The biggest lesson we all learned last season was that to have success you have to first learn how to become a team," Salcedo said. "And at the end of the year, it was evident that we were very much a team in the playoffs. So we'll try to emulate what we did in the 2006 season in terms of some of the team-building and the character and mentality exercises we went through to become a team."

Returning from last year's squad are the team's top two goalscorers - sophomore forward David Estrada (12g, 4a) and junior midfielder Jason Leopoldo (8g, 5a). Also back to kick-start the offense is junior forward Maxwell Griffin, who was leading UCLA in scoring with five goals before going down in the eighth game of the year with a knee injury.

UCLA's midfield looks strong once again with the return of Leopoldo, second-leading assist man Kyle Nakazawa (4g, 8a), U.S. Under-20 National Team starter Tony Beltran and 2006 UCLA Rookie of the Year Michael Stephens (2g, 3a).

Defensively, three of the four starters from 2006 return, including All-Far West and first-team All-Pac-10 honoree Mike Zaher, Pan Am Games team captain Greg Folk, and two-time All-Pac-10 selection Brad Rusin. In addition, the Bruins return the services of veterans Brandon Owens and Edwige Ligondé, who both missed the 2006 season due to injury, and Pan Am Games starter Chance Myers.

There is no drop-off in goal despite the loss of three-year starter Eric Reed. Taking over between the pipes is U.S. Under-20 National Team goalkeeper Brian Perk, who lost just one game in seven starts last season as a 17-year old freshman.

With 22 returning players on the roster, including 17 with starting experience, plus the addition of six talented newcomers, the Bruins have the pieces in place to make the improvements necessary for a national championship.

## Goalkeeper

The Bruins will carry four goalkeepers on the roster. Sophomore **Brian Perk** has the most experience of the group, having made seven starts a year ago and going 3-1-3 while receiving All-Freshman honors from Top Drawer Soccer. Perk also gained a great deal of experience with the U.S. Under-20 National Team at the FIFA Under-20 World Cup, capturing a win over Uruguay in the Round of 16.

**Trevor Hunter** redshirted the 2006 season, learning under starter Eric Reed and Perk. Hunter, tall and athletic at 6-3, has excellent range and a strong presence in goal. He was a member of the 2005 Pateadores national championship club squad.

New to the team are true freshmen **Brian Rowe** and **Kevin Weiner**. Rowe was a two-time All-State goalkeeper in Oregon and set a school and conference record as a sophomore by shutting out every conference opponent. He is another very athletic goalkeeper, having earned state honors in soccer, football and track and field. Weiner was team captain at Mira Costa HS last season and posted 9.5 shutouts while guiding his team to the CIF playoffs.

"Having four goalkeepers this year will help us in a variety of ways," said Salcedo. "Each of them brings a different skill set and common approach to training. Both Brian Perk and Trevor Hunter had excellent off-seasons. Brian Perk having the experience from last season, coupled with a summer with the Youth National Team, makes him our penciled-in starter. With that being said, Trevor Hunter showed that he will push Brian each and every day, and when called upon, he will have the confidence of the coaching staff and his teammates. Brian Rowe has athleticism and a work ethic that will surprise many of our players and which will allow him to compete for one of the top spots. Kevin Weiner complements our goalkeeper crew with a great attitude, work ethic and desire to make the program better."

## Defense

UCLA is the most experienced in defense, with four upperclassmen returning who have started a combined total of 157 games. The Bruin defense blossomed last year during the NCAA Tournament, posting three shutouts, including one in the NCAA semifinals against fourth-seeded Virginia.

The leader of the defense is right back **Mike Zaher**, a first-team All-Pac-10 and third-team All-Far West selection a year ago and a 2007 pre-season All-American. Zaher started in 23 games last season and scored two goals with three assists. "Mike Zaher possesses the mentality that epitomizes our approach to defending as a team, which is strong, tenacious and tireless," said Salcedo.

Along with Zaher, one of the team leaders will be **Greg Folk**, a versatile and consistent player who Salcedo calls "a constant symbol of a team player." Folk, who captained the U.S. Pan American Games squad over the summer, led UCLA in minutes played last season, playing in all but 44 minutes during the year and scoring one goal with two assists.

Three-year starter **Brandon Owens** returns after sitting out 2006 due to injury. Owens has the most experience on the squad, starting in 57 of 61 career games, not to mention the 36 U.S. Youth National Team caps he has accumulated. The redshirt senior was a starter on UCLA's 2003 squad that tied the school record for lowest team goals against average (0.52). Owens is the Bruins' most athletic player and is, Salcedo says, "very motivated to have his best season yet at UCLA."

Six-foot-four junior **Brad Rusin** established himself at the end of last season as a strong defensive presence and earned All-Pac-10 honorable mention honors for the second consecutive year. "We expect him to continue to grow as a player and give us even more this season," said Salcedo.

Returning players **Chance Myers**, **Edwige Ligondé**, **Sean Alvarado** and **Ryan White** were given opportunities in the off-season, and, according to Salcedo, "each did well to put themselves into positions to play." The four provide great depth and lots of options for the coaching staff with their skill, size and experience.

# Season Outlook

Myers, a sophomore, is a member of the U.S. Under-20 National Team and was a starter at the 2007 Pan American Games. Myers contributed one goal with four assists while playing in 21 games with five starts a year ago for the Bruins. Ligondé, who is coming off a redshirt season, will not be at full strength at the start of the season, but when healthy, he brings three years of experience in the program. Alvarado earned nine starts last season and saw action in both games at the College Cup. At six-foot-three, he brings good size to the back line, as does White, a 6-2 rising sophomore who had one start in six games played a year ago.

The Bruins have high hopes for freshman **Fernando De Alba**, an aggressive 6-1 player who starred with the ODP Region IV team. "Fernando De Alba is a player who will add a different dimension to our defense, and, in time, will become an integral component," said Salcedo.

Others expected to factor in are sophomores **Patrick Rickards** and **Danny Suits**, both of whom saw playing time last year. Rickards played in six games with one start, while Suits played in seven contests. "Patrick and Danny are athletic and versatile players who can play as defenders and as midfielders, which may give them more opportunities to see minutes during the season," Salcedo noted.

## Midfield

UCLA's midfield remains a strong suit, even with the departure of All-American and Under-20 World Cup star Sal Zizzo. The Bruins return a very skillful quartet of starters in **Tony Beltran**, **Jason Leopoldo**, **Michael Stephens** and **Kyle Nakazawa**, who can give opponents a variety of looks.

"Those four players, as a group, are most likely the four most technically gifted players in the country," proclaimed Salcedo. "Their ability to keep possession and break down defenses make them a dynamic group of players."

Beltran started at right back for the U.S. at the FIFA Under-20 World Cup, but his more natural position is as a defensive midfielder, where he logged 14 starts last season. Beltran's value was evident last season when he kick-started the Bruins' playoff run upon return from an ankle injury that sidelined him for a month.

Leopoldo had a breakthrough season last year, ranking second on the squad with eight goals and three game-winners and third on the team with 21 points. The former U.S. international was one of three Bruin players who started all 24 games last season, and he earned second-team All-Pac-10 honors.

Stephens was a 22-game starter and earned All-Freshman acclaim from Soccer America after his two-goal, three-assist season. A member of both the Under-18 and Under-20 National Teams, Stephens had a busy off-season, playing in the Pan Am Games and the SBS Games in Japan, in addition to leading his PDL team to the conference finals.

Nakazawa, another Soccer America All-Freshman selection and U.S. Youth National Team member, ranked second on the Bruin squad last year with eight assists and also added four goals for a total of 16 points. Nakazawa started all 24 games in 2006, splitting time in midfield and up front as a forward.

Two other players who saw starting minutes last year are sophomores **James Jaramillo** and **Chance Myers**. Jaramillo started nine games and contributed one of the Bruins' biggest goals in the regular season, a game-winner with 18 seconds remaining in double overtime to beat conference rival Washington. Salcedo sees both as "players who will

give us consistent minutes and important moments throughout the season."

Sophomore **Andrew Sinderhoff** and junior transfer **Tomer Konowiecki** can fill in at various spots in the midfield. "Andrew and Tomer are technically very sound players," said Salcedo. "Each has a goal-scoring ability that we hope will grow."

Add to that junior **Mikey Meschures** and redshirt freshman **Robert Georgiefski**, two left-sided players who, Salcedo says, "can create moments for our team to be more dangerous."

## Forward

The Bruins have the luxury of maintaining two proven front runners in sophomore **David Estrada** and junior **Maxwell Griffin**. "Our forwards do exactly what you hope a group of attacking players do for a team ... score goals," Salcedo pointed out. The dynamic duo combined to score 17 goals in a total of 31 games last season, and each recorded shot percentages of 30% or higher.

Last season's Soccer America Freshman of the Year, Estrada went from walk-on reserve to starting hero, scoring a team-high 12 goals and 28 points, with 11 of his goals coming after being inserted into the starting lineup. Estrada parlayed his 2006 success into a call-up to the U.S. Under-18 National Team camp. Salcedo predicts Estrada to be "motivated and eager to improve upon his tremendous freshman year."

Griffin is also hungry to get back on the pitch after missing most of 2006 with a knee injury suffered in the eighth game of the season. Griffin was on a tear just prior to his injury, scoring five goals to lead the team and being named the consensus national player of the week just the week before. The Bruins expect him to be back in the same form this season, which should bolster an already explosive lineup.

Also looking to see action up front are freshman **Kyle McAthy**, redshirt freshman **Robert Georgiefski** and sophomore **Kyle Nakazawa**. McAthy was a proven goal scorer at Huntington Beach HS the last four years, compiling a school record 52 goals in his career, combined with 23 assists for 127 career points. Last season, he ranked second in Orange County with 24 goals. Georgiefski, who was the leading scorer for the Pateadores during their 2005 national championship season, redshirted in 2006 after suffering a knee injury in the team's first exhibition game but is ready for his first full year of competition.

"These players give us a core group of offensive players who will be a handful for opposing teams," praised Salcedo.

## Schedule

Once again, the Bruins have a challenging schedule on tap, opening the season on the road against nationally-ranked teams from Notre Dame, Indiana and Creighton. In addition, the Bruins have a road match against pre-season No. 8 Santa Clara and the usual Pac-10 dual schedule. In all, the Bruins have 11 games scheduled against 2006 NCAA Tournament teams.

"The first three games of the season will present a great opportunity for us to see whether or not our group did learn from last year's experience," said Salcedo. "Our home and away matches against non-conference opponents, plus a difficult conference schedule will make every game this season a challenge, but one that we'll take one game at a time."

