

NCAA Tournament Box Scores

2005-06

Mar. 19, 2006: Cleveland, OH Regional, 1st Rd. at West Lafayette, IN (Mackey Arena - Purdue University)

UCLA 74 — Livingston 4, Pluimer 8, Quinn 21, Blue 7, Willis 23, Oren 2, Ibekwe 6, Pedersen 3, Henderson 0, Zaidi 0, Lezcano 0.

Bowling Green 61 — Honegger 15, Mann 16, Thorburn 0, Horne 7, Achter 11, McDowell 8, Flynn 2, McCall 0, Goldsberry 0, Lause 2, Taylor 0, McKenzie 0.

Halftime — UCLA 42, Bowling Green 28. **Attn.** — 4,239.

Mar. 21, 2006: Cleveland, OH Regional 2nd Rd. game at West Lafayette, IN (Mackey Arena - Purdue University)

UCLA 54 — Livingston 0, Quinn 9, Pluimer 6, Blue 18, Willis 15, Ibekwe 6, Pitts 0, Oren 0, Henderson 0, Zaidi 0.

Purdue 61 — Traore 11, Lawless 14, Wisdom-Hylton 14, Gearlds 15, Webb 6, Campbell 0, Howell 0, Bogdanova 0, Freeman 0, Duncan 1.

Halftime — UCLA 26, Purdue 24. **Attn.** — 3,766.

2003-04

Mar. 21, 2004: Mideast Regional 1st Rd. at Minneapolis, MN (Williams Arena-University of Minnesota)

UCLA 81 — Jones 3, Veasley 2, Blue 33, Willis 15, Quinn 15, Oren 2, Arranaga 5, Livingston 6.

Minnesota 92 — Bolden 5, Andersson 14, McCarville 19, Schonrock 15, Whalen 31, Roysland 2, Dimitroff 0, Broback 6, Collison 0, Podominick 0.

Halftime — Minn. 38, UCLA 37. **Attn.** — 12,357.

1999-00

Mar. 17, 2000: Mideast Regional 1st Rd. at Notre Dame, IN (Joyce Center-Notre Dame University)

UCLA 72 — Philman 8, Martin 8, Hubbard 15, Gomez 9, Kaczmarek 13, Flannigan 9, Jackson 0, Greco 6, Funicello 4.

George Washington 79 — Lawrence 10, Jefferson 2, Dubovcova 18, Egleston 5, Aguilar 23, Joens 5, Alexander 13, Baskova 0, Davidson 3, Carlson 0.

Halftime — GW 39, UCLA 26. **Attn.** — 5,195.

1998-99

Mar. 13, 1999: West Regional 1st Rd. at Los Angeles, CA (Pauley Pavilion-UCLA)

UCLA 76 — Philman 5, Martin 18, Hubbard 12, Gomez 15, Flannigan 16, Pearson 8, Greco 2, Rembert 0, Funicello 0.

UW-Green Bay 69 — Ebel 3, Nordgaard 27, Warden 7, Krueger 5, Knutson 7, Leonhard 6, Tilque 12, Schoeneberger 2.

Halftime — UCLA 42, UWGB 24. **Attn.** — 2,390.

Mar. 15, 1999: West Regional 2nd Rd. at Los Angeles, CA (Pauley Pavilion-UCLA)

UCLA 87 — Philman 16, Martin 21, Hubbard 13, Gomez 6, Flannigan 6, Pearson 13, Belavic 2, Greco 3, Rembert 0, Funicello 7.

Kentucky 63 — McDole 16, Meadows 15, Owens 5, Wait 2, Jackson 10, Martinez 2, Alexander 3, Keith 0, Vieth 5, Barnes 5, Christman 0, Young 0, Seaton 0.

Halftime — UCLA 34, UK 24. **Attn.** — 2,604.

Mar. 20, 1999: West Regional semifinal at Los Angeles, CA (Sports Arena-USC)

UCLA 77 — Philman 0, Martin 11, Hubbard 21, Flannigan 16, Gomez 0, Pearson 17, Greco 8, Funicello 4.

Colorado State 68 — Cronin 24, Hannen 3, McDill 1, Manning 2, Hammon 21, Gorton 7, Johnson 6, Randles 4.

Halftime — UCLA 26, Colorado State 25. **Attn.** — 4,583.

Mar. 22, 1999: West Regional final at Los Angeles, CA (Sports Arena-USC)

UCLA 62 — Philman 10, Martin 16, Hubbard 10, Flannigan 11, Greco 6, Gomez 6, Pearson 3, Funicello 0.

Louisiana Tech 88 — Maxwell 22, Wilson 23, Massey 12, Stallworth 12, Jackson 9, Walker 2, Sides 2, Lassiter 0, Lennox 6, Lewis 0, Gilmore 0.

Halftime — La. Tech 35, UCLA 32. **Attn.** — 5,302.

1997-98

Mar. 13, 1998: Midwest Regional 1st Rd. at Tuscaloosa, AL (Coleman Coliseum-University of Alabama)

UCLA 65 — Philman 3, Martin 16, Hubbard 12, Grimes 6, Gomez 4, Pearson 15, Jackson 0, Flannigan 4, Veasley 5, Funicello 0.

Michigan 58 — Murray 13, Thomas 17, Johns 9, Thorius 4, Lemire 5, Franklin 6, Walker 4, Willard 0.

Halftime — UCLA 33, Michigan 23. **Attn.** — 3,025.

Mar. 15, 1998: Midwest Regional 2nd Rd. game at Tuscaloosa, AL (Coleman Coliseum-University of Alabama)

UCLA 74 — Philman 16, Martin 13, Hubbard 19, Grimes 9, Gomez 8, Pearson 2, Jackson 7, Veasley 0, Funicello 0, Flannigan 0.

Alabama 75 — Caudle 2, Mills 12, Canty 28, Goss 8, Ezell 19, Jones 4, Carruth 0, Duncan 2. **Halftime** — UCLA 41, Alabama 28. **Attn.** — 3,250.

1991-92

Mar. 13, 1992: Midwest Regional 1st Rd. at Los Angeles, CA (Pauley Pavilion - UCLA)

UCLA 93 — Stephens 11, Williams 22, Kamrath 6, Anderson 16, Mosman 9, Tarabochia 0, Lockhart 0, Jalewalia 21, Allen 0, Gische 0, VanOostveen 8.

Notre Dame 72 — Bowen 18, Haysbert 0, Nowlin 14, Leary 0, Orlosky 8, Knapp 0, Smith 2, Washington 7, Marciniak 21, Alexander 2, Rupe 0.

Halftime — UCLA 37, Notre Dame 24. **Attn.** — 441.

Mar. 22, 1992: Midwest Regional 2nd Rd. at Austin, TX (Erwin Events Center - University of Texas)

UCLA 82 — Stephens 20, Kamrath 5, Williams 24, Anderson 4, Mosman 17, Lockhart 7, Jalewalia 3, VanOostveen 2.

Texas 81 — Meeks 19, Benton 7, C. Henderson 28, Pointer 12, N. Henderson 9, Jones 2, Kennedy 0, Clark 4, Pollard 0.

Halftime — Texas 47, UCLA 42. **Attn.** — 4,990.

Mar. 26, 1992: Midwest Regional semifinal at Boulder, CO (Coors Events Center - University of Colorado)

UCLA 57 — Stephens 13, Kamrath 3, Williams 17, Anderson 8, Mosman 7, Jalewalia 7, Lockhart 2, VanOostveen 0.

SW Missouri State 83 — Rapier 8, Winkfield 14, Baucom 10, Robbins 13, M. Howard 18, Shira 10, Muller 8, J. Howard 1, Sumrall 1, Ediger 0.

Halftime — SW Miss. St. 37, UCLA 22. **Attn.** — 2,739.

1989-90

Mar. 14, 1990: West Regional 1st Rd. game at Fayetteville, AR (Barnhill Arena - University of Arkansas)

UCLA 80 — VanEmbrics 13, Wootton 10, Kamrath 6, Stephens 16, Mosman 13, Roulier 7, Young 2, Bouldin 13. **Arkansas 90** — Nicholas 22, Jackson 13, Savage 21, Willson 6, DeHorney 22, Gore 2, Goshien 2, Moore 2, Crosby 0.

Halftime — UCLA 37, Ark. 30. **Regulation** — UCLA 75, Ark. 75. **Attn.** — 3,257.

1984-85

Mar. 15, 1985: West Regional 1st Rd. at Seattle, WA (Edmundson Pavilion - University of Washington)

UCLA 78 — Joyner 13, VandeLagematt 2, Keur 12, Hardy 16, Dean 18, Biggs 8, Brown 0, Dome 9.

Washington 62 — Oriard 15, Avelino 13, Bishop 6, Rue 4, Hughley 20, Hamilton 0, Tucker 0, Recknor 0, Raschkow 4.

Halftime — UCLA 34, Washington 32. **Attn.** — 3,832.

Mar. 21, 1985: West Regional semifinal at Los Angeles, CA (Pauley Pavilion - UCLA)

Georgia 78 — McClain 9, O'Connor 8, Harris 17, Edwards 21, Gardner 8, Abrams 4, Waites 7, Inman 2, Acosta 0, Bootz 2.

UCLA 42 — VandeLagemaat 2, Joyner 7, Keur 14, Hardy 2, Dean 6, Biggs 4, Brown 2, Mead 0, Nishi 0, Dome 5.

Halftime — Georgia 43, UCLA 14. **Attn.** — 4,624.

1982-83

Mar. 19, 1983: West Regional 1st Rd. at Willamette, OR (Sparks Center - Oregon State)

UCLA 62 — Joyner 6, Dean 2, Thompson 24, McCoy 5, McFadden 0, Hardy 7, Jones 12, Thurston 4, Alston 2.

Oregon State 75 — Martin 23, Coleman 6, Spoelstra 8, Sturzenegger 9, Clark 23, Coleman 6, Lopez 0, Channel 3, Mothershed 3, Novo 0.

Halftime — Oregon State 39, UCLA 26. **Attn.** — 1,523.

Other Post-Season Results

1980-81 AIAW Playoffs

West Regional at Pepperdine

UCLA 92, USF 68

USC 102, UCLA 85

UCLA 61, San Diego St. 54 (3rd place)

Sectional Playoffs

UCLA 72, Oregon St. 65 (Pauley)

UCLA 73, Kansas 71 (at Kansas)

Louisiana Tech 87, UCLA 54 (at Tech)

1979-80 AIAW Playoffs

West Regionals at San Jose State

UCLA 81, San Jose St. 66

Long Beach St. 89, UCLA 88

USF 74, UCLA 60 (3rd place)

1978-79 AIAW Playoffs

West Regional at UCSB

UCLA 85, Stanford 68

UCLA 97, USC 81

UCLA 96, Long Beach St. 80*

Sectionals at Stanford

UCLA 105, Oregon St. 70

UCLA 92, Wayland Baptist 73*

Final Four at Greensboro, NC

Old Dominion 87, UCLA 82 (Semis)

Tennessee 104, UCLA 86 (3rd place)

1977-78 AIAW Playoffs

West Regional at Stanford

UCLA 80, Stanford 54

UCLA 79, Long Beach St. 78, ot

UCLA 100, UNLV 88*

Sectionals at Long Beach

UCLA 102, BYU 57

UCLA 86, Stephen F. Austin 60*

Final Four at UCLA

UCLA 85, Montclair St. 77 (semis)

UCLA 90, Maryland 74*

1976-77 AIAW Playoffs

West Regional at Fullerton

UCLA 86, UCSB 33

UCLA 91, Long Beach St. 77

Cal St. Fullerton 91, UCLA 87*

NWIT at Amarillo, TX

UCLA 102, Indiana St. 73

UCLA 66, Old Dominion 59

Wayland Baptist 79, UCLA 75*

1975-76 AIAW Playoffs

West Regional at San Jose St.

Long Beach St. 78, UCLA 77

UCLA 97, UNLV 77

NWIT at Amarillo, TX

UCLA 76, West Texas St. 63

UCLA 80, Belmont 71

Wayland Baptist 90, UCLA 77*

1974-75 SCWICAC Conf. Tourn.

UCLA 67, UCSB 54 at Riverside

UCLA 62, Cal Poly Pomona 50 at Riverside

Cal St. Fullerton 63, UCLA 62* at Riverside

NWIT at Amarillo, TX

UCLA 74, Indiana 61

UCLA 62, Mercer 50

Wayland Baptist 79, UCLA 41*

*indicates championship game

The National Championship Season - 1978



1978 National Championship Team - Back row (l-r): Head coach Billie Moore, Heidi Nestor, Anita Ortega, Denise Corlett, Denise Curry, Janet Hopkins, Tam Breckenridge, Ann Meyers, assistant coach Colleen Matsuhara. Front row (l-r): Beth Moore, Dianne Frierson, Debbie Willie.

Led by four-time All-American Ann Meyers, Anita Ortega, Denise Curry and head coach Billie Moore, UCLA captured the 1978 AIAW (Association of Intercollegiate Athletics for Women) national basketball championship in Pauley Pavilion. The title drive included Bruin wins in the final 21 games of the season and culminated in the 90-74 championship victory over Maryland before an AIAW record crowd of 9,351.

In all, the Final Four weekend drew more than 17,000 fans to Pauley Pavilion and included a national semifinal win over Montclair State by an 85-77 count. The road to the Final Four began with regional wins over Stanford (80-54), Long Beach State (79-78) and UNLV (100-88). Sectional wins followed over BYU (102-57) and Stephen F. Austin (86-60).

AIAW Semifinals - Mar. 23, 1978

UCLA dominated the game, taking a 52-38 lead into halftime and never relinquishing it. Three Bruins recorded double-doubles - Denise Curry with 22 points and 14 rebounds, Heidi Nestor with 22/10 and Ann Meyers with 19/14. The Bruins controlled the boards, outrebounding Montclair State 61-29. MSC had 40 points from Carol Blazejowski but only 37 from the rest of the team.

Montclair State 77

Player	FG-A	FT-A	Reb	PF	TP	A	T	B	S	Min
Blazejowski*	18-33	4-4	7	4	40	2	1	0	2	40
Colasurdo*	3-9	2-2	11	4	8	2	2	1	5	40
Szeremeta*	7-19	0-1	4	1	14	2	4	2	2	37
Jeffrey*	3-8	0-0	1	2	6	5	2	0	0	22
C. Meyers*	0-2	0-0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	8
Schmidt	2-3	0-0	3	0	4	7	4	0	0	35
Henry	2-4	1-2	2	0	5	0	0	0	1	18
Totals	35-78	7-9	29	11	77	19	13	3	10	200

Field Goal %: .449

Free Throw %: .778

UCLA 85

Player	FG-A	FT-A	Reb	PF	TP	A	T	B	S	Min
Curry*	11-14	0-0	14	3	22	1	0	0	1	34
Meyers*	8-15	3-3	14	3	19	8	9	2	6	40
Nestor*	11-17	0-0	10	3	22	0	2	1	0	27
Ortega*	2-15	3-4	7	1	7	3	5	0	0	38
Frierson*	3-11	1-2	0	1	7	6	4	0	1	35
Corlett	3-9	2-4	9	2	8	0	2	0	1	19
Moore	0-1	0-0	3	0	0	1	0	0	0	7
Totals	38-82	9-13	61	13	85	19	22	3	9	200

Field Goal %: .463

Free Throw %: .692

Halftime-UCLA 52-38.

Attn. 7,822.

AIAW Finals - Mar. 25, 1978

UCLA never trailed in the game and led by as many as 19 points, 74-55, before winning its first-ever national title 90-74 in front of an AIAW National Championship record crowd of 9,351. Ann Meyers recorded her second consecutive double-double, tallying 20 points and 10 rebounds, to go along with nine assists and eight steals. Anita Ortega led all scorers with 23 points.

Maryland 74

Player	FG-A	FT-A	Reb	PF	TP	A	T	B	S	Min
Jones*	1-3	3-4	5	4	5	1	2	0	1	27
Briese*	2-6	0-0	3	1	4	1	3	0	0	10
Kirchner*	7-21	1-2	15	4	15	0	5	0	1	38
Bailey*	10-22	0-0	5	4	20	3	4	0	2	32
Heiss*	6-9	0-1	2	4	12	9	5	0	3	36
Schlesinger	0-0	0-0	1	0	0	1	2	0	0	4
Lefeged	0-4	0-0	3	2	0	2	1	0	2	20
Kimrey	0-2	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Stewart	9-17	0-0	8	3	18	1	2	1	1	31
Totals	35-84	4-7	46	22	74	18	24	1	10	200

Field Goal %: .417

Free Throw %: .571

UCLA 90

Player	FG-A	FT-A	Reb	PF	TP	A	T	B	S	Min
Curry*	9-19	0-0	7	2	18	2	6	2	2	36
Meyers*	9-17	2-2	10	2	20	9	4	0	8	39
Nestor*	5-9	3-3	9	5	13	1	1	0	2	27
Ortega*	8-17	7-8	3	4	23	2	1	1	0	29
Frierson*	3-10	3-3	2	0	9	1	4	0	2	33
Corlett	2-5	2-2	11	1	6	0	4	0	0	24
Moore	0-1	1-2	1	0	1	1	3	0	0	12
Totals	36-78	18-20	45	14	90	16	23	3	14	200

Field Goal %: .462

Free Throw %: .900

Halftime-UCLA 43-33.

Attn. 9,351.

1978 National Championship Team Honored On 30th Anniversary

Each member of UCLA's 1978 National Championship squad was in attendance on Feb. 17, 2008 in Pauley Pavilion to celebrate the 30th Anniversary of UCLA's first women's basketball title, a 90-74 victory over Maryland.

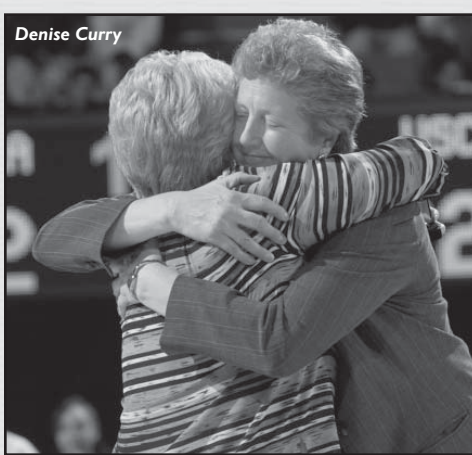
The players, coaches and staff were honored at halftime of the UCLA-USC game and presented with national championship rings for the first time ever. At the time of their championship, they simply received championship watches.



1978 National Championship Team (l-r): Heidi Nestor, Beth Moore, Tam Breckenridge, Ann Meyers Drysdale, Denise Curry, Assistant Coach Colleen Matsuhara, Head Coach Billie Moore, Denise Corlett, Team Manager Yvette Duran-Hardin, Janet Hopkins, Dianne Frierson, Debbie Willie, Sports Information Director Michael Sondheimer, Associate Athletic Director Dr. Judith Holland, Anita Ortega.



Anita Ortega



Denise Curry



Ann Meyers Drysdale



Billie Moore and Dr. Judith Holland

1999 - Pac-10 Champions, Elite Eight Participants



The Bruins captured their first Pac-10 Conference championship in 1999. UCLA posted a 15-3 conference record, the most Pac-10 wins in its history. Its 26-8 overall record included the most wins by a Bruin team since the 1981 squad went 29-7. Coach Kathy Olivier's unit went on to advance further in the NCAA tournament, with a trip to the Elite Eight, than any other Bruin team in history. It marked UCLA's sixth overall tournament appearance and first-ever back-to-back appearances. In addition, the #3 seeding into the tournament was a school-best.

UCLA's run to the Elite Eight began in Pauley Pavilion, as the Bruins hosted Wisconsin-Green Bay for a first-round matchup. Four Bruin players scored in double-figures to lead UCLA to a 76-69 victory, setting up a second-round matchup with Kentucky. Pac-10 Player of the Year and Kodak All-American Maylana Martin led all players with 21 points, 15 coming from the free throw line, and Marie Philman posted a double-double with 16 points and 10 boards in the 87-63 win over the Wildcats.

UCLA continued its playoff run with a West Regional contest against seventh-ranked Colorado State at the Los Angeles Sports Arena. The Bruins' hopes suffered an early setback when point guard Erica Gomez sprained her ankle in the game's first minute, but freshman Michelle Greco stepped in and helped keep the team on course to a 26-25 lead at the half. It was a tight game throughout, and the Bruins led by one point, 67-66, with 2:12 to play when LaCresha Flannigan made five of six free throws down the stretch to put the game away. UCLA advanced to its first-ever Elite Eight with a 77-68 decision and a date with third-ranked Louisiana Tech.

The Bruins played some of their best basketball of the year in jumping out to a 28-18 lead at the 7:23 mark of the first half in the Regional championship battle. However, the Lady Techsters scored the next 11 points in the game and led 35-32 at the break. The Bruins regained the lead at 38-37, but it would be their last of the contest as Tech rolled to a 88-62 win. Martin led four Bruins in double digits with 16 points.

The team set a school and Pac-10 record for steals in a season with 435 and for best field goal percentage in a game with a .695 mark (41-59 fg) at Washington State on February 25. The overall team shooting percentage for the season of .476 (ninth-best in the nation) was the best by a Bruin team since 1983-84 (.491). Opponents were held to .400 shooting in the 1999 season, which was the lowest mark since the 1978 UCLA team limited opponents to .395. The scoring average of 85.2 points per contest ranked fifth-best in the nation.

The attendance of 9,530 fans which gathered to witness the USC game on January 23 was the largest ever to see a women's game in UCLA's Pauley Pavilion, surpassing the total of 9,351 which were on hand for the 1978 AIAW National Championship game vs. Maryland. The team's final ranking of No. 7 in the USA Today coaches poll marked UCLA's highest finish ever in that poll and the best finish in either poll since a No. 7 ranking in the Associated Press listings in 1981.

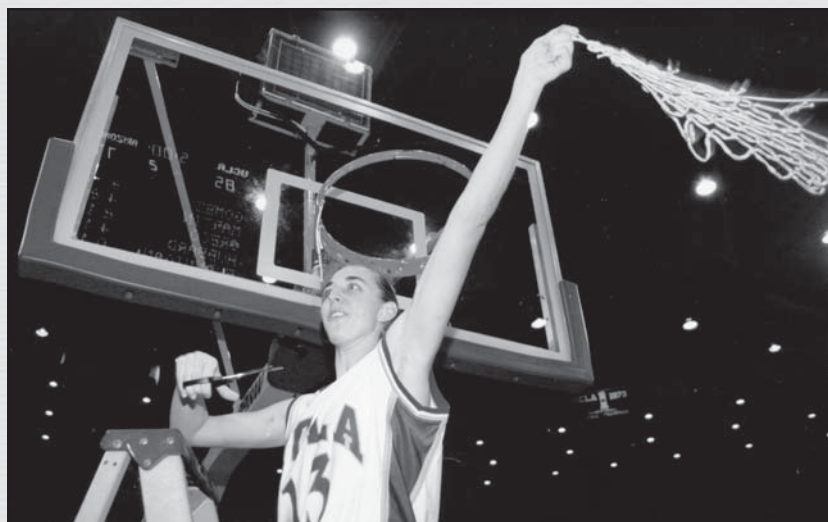
Martin, led the conference in scoring with an 18.2 mark and ranked as the second-leading rebounder at 9.4 caroms per contest. Martin, who was a finalist for the Naismith Award presented to the nation's outstanding player, exploded for a career-best 38 points (seventh-highest total in school history) in a win at USC in which she connected on 13-19 shots from the field and 12-14 free throws. The junior also grabbed a career-best matching 18 rebounds in that game.

UCLA's biggest surprise during the season was the play of sophomore guard Flannigan, who earned first-team All-Pac-10 honors as well. She was the second-leading scorer on the team behind Martin with a 14.1 mark and managed to do most of her damage in the conference, where she averaged 17.2 points per game.

The Bruins' third first-team All-Pac-10 selection was Gomez, who broke Ann Meyers' (544) school record for career assists. Gomez set the record at home against Arizona State on March 4 and finished her junior season with 573 assists. She also established a school record for assists in a single-game with 16 in the game at Arizona State on January 5. Gomez' season assist average of 6.67 edged Mary Hegarty's old school record of 6.66 for best single-season mark.

Two other starters averaged in double figures for the Bruins in the championship season. Junior center Janae Hubbard, an honorable mention All-Pac-10 selection, averaged 12.5 points per game and ranked fourth in the conference in rebounding with a 7.9 mark. During the year, Hubbard pulled down 22 rebounds in a game vs. Arizona on March 6, the fourth-highest single-game total in school history. Earlier in the year, she had scored a career-best 29 points against UConn. Philman scored 11.1 points per game and grabbed five boards. She set or tied her career high in points in four games during the season, including a best of 24 vs. Washington on January 28.

The Bruin bench was a big reason for the success of this team, and three players were the primary contributors. Junior Melanie Pearson appeared in all 34 games and averaged 8.5 points while leading the team with 40 three-point goals. Junior Carly Funicello provided valuable assistance on the inside. She averaged 5.6 points and 4.1 rebounds per game and saw action in 31 contests. Greco was the third key member of the team, providing a lift off the bench. Greco, who was named to the All-Pac-10 freshman team and to the NCAA West Regional All-Tournament team, scored at a 7.8 points per game clip and handed out 94 assists in 34 games.



Maylana Martin cuts down the nets at Pauley Pavilion after the Bruins clinched their first-ever Pac-10 title in 1999.

2006 Pac-10 Tournament Champions



Led by the Triple Threat of Nikki Blue, Noelle Quinn and Lisa Willis, the Bruins entered the 2006 State Farm Pac-10 Tournament as the third seeded team and proceeded to knock off California (#6 seed), Arizona State (#2) and Stanford (#1) on consecutive days in the HP Pavilion in San Jose, CA to win the school's first-ever conference tournament championship.

Willis was named the Most Valuable Player of the Tournament after averaging 20.3 points per game over the three days. Blue, who set a tournament record with 11 assists in the win over Cal, was named to the All-Tournament team for the fourth consecutive season, becoming the first Pac-10 player to accomplish this feat. Quinn, who led the Bruins with 22 points in the championship win over Stanford, was also selected to the All-Tournament Team.

As the No. 3 seed in the tournament, the Bruins had a first-round bye and then faced No. 6 California in the second round. The Bruin defense was swarming, setting a Pac-10 Tournament record with 20 steals in the game and forcing a total of 23 California turnovers in a 80-63 victory. Offensively, four Bruins were in double-figure scoring, with double-doubles from Noelle Quinn (18 points/10 rebounds) and Nikki Blue (14 points/Pac-10 Tournament record 11 assists). Lisa Willis was one steal shy of Blue's Tournament steals record, finishing with seven, and also had 14 points. Chinyere Ibe-kwe added 10 and Oritan Oren scored eight off the Bruin bench which contributed a total of 21 points for the game.

Cal led early in the game, but UCLA went on an 8-0 run to take an 11-5 lead that it never relinquished. The Golden Bears used a 6-0 second-half run to close to within eight, 50-42, with 13:05 on the clock, but Willis stopped Cal's momentum by burying a three-pointer. Willis' three jump-started a 17-4 Bruin run that gave UCLA a 67-46 lead and put the game away. UCLA went on to lead by as many as 22 points, 75-53.

In the semifinals, UCLA matched up against No. 2 seed Arizona State and got a huge second-half surge from Willis to come away with a 60-59 victory that not only sent the Bruins to the title game but gave head coach Kathy Olivier her 200th career victory. UCLA got off to a slow start in the game and trailed, 28-19, at the half. The second half saw seven ties and 11 lead changes, the last coming when Quinn made two free throws with 28.9 seconds remaining. UCLA forced a turnover in the final seconds to secure the win, but it was Willis' 20 second-half points that put the Bruins in position for the win. Willis finished with 27 points, five three-point shots, two blocks and six steals. Quinn contributed another double-double with 16 points, 10 rebounds, three steals, two assists and two blocks for the Bruins, who snapped ASU's school-record 10-game winning streak. The Bruin defense came through again, forcing 26 Sun Devil turnovers, 17 via steals.

With UCLA in the Championship game for the first time in the Tournament's history, only No. 1 seed and three-time defending champion Stanford stood in the way of the Tournament crown. The two teams had split the regular season series, with each winning at home. UCLA trailed by as many as 13 points in the second half of the game and by seven points, 70-63, with 1:29 to play but refused to give up. The Bruins scored the final seven points in regulation time with a basket by Quinn with five seconds to play knotting the score at 70. A three-point shot by Lindsey Pluimer

pushed the Bruins into a 73-72 lead in overtime they would not give up. Two big free throws by Ibe-kwe with 28 seconds to play in overtime gave UCLA an 80-76 advantage. UCLA hits five of six free throws down the stretch while holding Stanford without a basket to earn its first conference tournament championship. Quinn finished with 22 points and eight rebounds. Willis added 20 points, four assists and six steals. Pluimer contributed 16, and Blue had 14 points, eight assists and six steals.

The Bruins set several tournament records - Quinn with 23 field goals; Willis with 11 made three-point shots, 19 steals and a 6.3 steals average; Blue with 11 assists in the Cal game and an assist average of 8.3. UCLA also set a tournament record with 20 steals in the game against California, and their total of 52 for the three games in the tournament were a record.

With the NCAA automatic bid in hand, the Bruins traveled to Purdue for the first two rounds of the NCAA Tournament. In the first round against 23rd-ranked Bowling Green, UCLA used an 18-1 run in the first half to turn a 13-15 deficit into a 31-16 lead and went on to win by a final score of 74-61. The Triple Threat once again dominated, combining to score 51 of the Bruins' 74 points. Willis led all players with 23 points and 12 rebounds, the 15th NCAA Tournament double-double in UCLA history. Quinn added 21 points with seven rebounds, and Blue contributed seven points and six assists. Pluimer also had a solid game with eight points and 10 rebounds. UCLA outshot Bowling Green, 46.9-36.5% and outrebounded the Falcons, 49-31. Willis set a school record for three-point shots made in the NCAA Tournament, connecting on five treys.

Although UCLA's NCAA Tournament run ended in the next round against 11th-ranked Purdue, the 2006 Bruins enjoyed a stellar season, finishing the year with 21 victories and 12 conference wins (third-most in school history) and placing three players (Blue, Quinn, Willis) on the AP honorable mention All-America team.



Chinyere Ibe-kwe and Lindsey Pluimer