

# Season In Review

Darxia Morris' buzzer-beater from halfcourt at Oregon



## A Look Back at 2008-09

The Bruins completed the season with an overall record of 19-12 and a 9-9 mark in the Pac-10, good for a tie for fourth place in the conference. It was the eighth time in the last 12 seasons that the Bruin program has finished among the conference's top four teams (only one Pac-10 program has a better track record in that period). The 19 wins matched the number for the 10th-best win total in school history.

The Bruins finished with a 13-3 home record, the most wins a UCLA team has posted in Pauley Pavilion since the 1998-99 team also went 13-3. The 13 wins ties for the second-most wins ever in one home season.

The team held opponents to 61.6 points per game which ranked as the third-lowest mark in school history. A .401 opponent shooting % on the season rated as the seventh-lowest in school history. In a mid-season stretch of nine straight games, the Bruins limited opponents to 65 points or less in regulation time, which was the longest string of such games since the 1974-75 team held its first 21 opponents to 63 points or less.

## Great Start

The 2008-09 squad became just the third UCLA team to have won at least 14 games by Feb. 1 on the calendar --- the 1998-99 team won 17; the 1980-81 team won 19.

## Defense

In beating Arizona (1/17) and Washington State (1/22), UCLA put together back-to-back contests in which it limited the opponent to under-50 points for the first time ever in Pac-10 play. The last time UCLA had held consecutive opponents to less than 50 points was in 1988.

On Jan. 17, the Bruins surrendered a season-low 38 points to Arizona. It was the fewest points allowed by a Bruin team since UCLA defeated Northern Arizona, 77-37, in 1987.

## Under-60 Streak

When Rice scored 64 points in its game in Houston, it snapped a streak of five straight Bruin opponents being held under the 60-point mark. The last time a Bruin team held more than five straight opponents to less than 60

points in a game was in the 1976-77 season (two different streaks of five and six games).

## Bruins Best No. 4-Ranked Team

The Bruin victory over then No. 4-ranked California on 3/1/09 (71-56) was one of the highlights of the season. It marked the second straight season in which UCLA had upended a top-five ranked opponent.

## 12-For-12

With Allison Taka's start at Washington, all 12 players on the Bruin roster had earned the starting nod at least once during the season.

## Buzzer-Beater

Darxia Morris hit the game-winning shot at the buzzer to give UCLA a 70-69 win over Oregon. The Ducks had taken a 69-67 lead after Taylor Lilley stole the ball near midcourt and drove the lane for a basket with 4.6 seconds remaining. After each team burned a timeout, UCLA inbounded the ball under the Duck basket. Morris grabbed the pass, dribbled just past the mid-court line and banked in a 40-footer at the buzzer to give the Bruins the win.

## Ibekwe's On the List

Chinyere Ibekwe finished her Bruin career ranked fourth in games played (122), ninth all-time in blocks (68) and 16th in rebounds (623).

## Bruins Bang the Boards

The Bruins won the battle of the boards in the first nine games of the season and in 23 of the 31 contests during the season. The Bruins recorded 50+ rebounds in seven ballgames and were ranked among the nation's best in rebound margin (seventh in NCAA, 8.7) during the course of the year.

## Ibekwe: One of Eight to 600/60

Senior center Chinyere Ibekwe grabbed her 600th rebound against Stanford (Feb. 27) and in doing so became just the eighth player in UCLA history to record at least 600 rebounds and 60 blocks for a career. Ibekwe finished with 623 caroms (16th on all-time list) and 68 blocks (ninth all-time).

## Pac-10 Rankings

Doreena Campbell ranked 11th in the league in scoring (12.9), sixth in assists (3.7), sixth in free throw % (.798), sixth in assist / turnover ratio (1.2) and tied for 14th in steals (1.4). Darxia Morris ranked 15th in assists (2.5) and 13th in steals (1.4). Chinyere Ibekwe ranked ninth in rebounds (6.2), 10th in blocked shots (0.7), ninth in offensive rebounds (2.4) and 11th in defensive rebounds (3.8). Monique Alexander ranked tied for 11th in offensive rebounds (2.3).

The Bruins led the Pac-10 in steals (10.7), offensive rebounds (17.1) and placed second in rebounding offense (40.9). UCLA also finished second in rebounding margin (+8.7) and was third in the conference in three-point field goal percentage (.320).

## Conference Honors

Sophomore Doreena Campbell was named to the second-team all-conference squad. Junior Erica Tukiainen received honorable mention. Atonye Nyingifa was selected to the Pac-10 All-Freshman team.

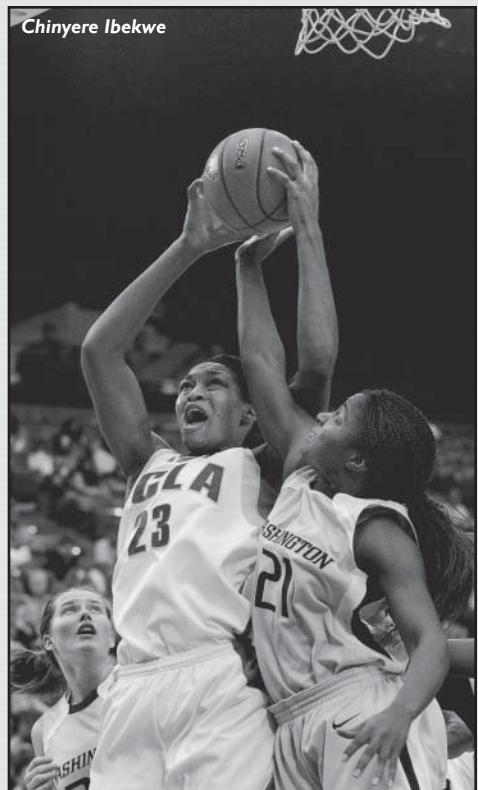
Campbell earned her first conference Player of the Week honors after leading the Bruins to a win over USC while scoring 20 points. Nyingifa was named to the State Farm All-Pac-10 Tournament squad.

## By the Numbers

With 90 team blocked shots, the Bruins tied for the sixth-most rejections in school history. The Bruin three-point shot made total of 107 ranked as the sixth-best total in school listings. The total of 318 three-point shots attempted was eighth on the all-time list. The Bruin three-point shooting percentage of .336 was the eighth-best in school history. UCLA limited opponents to just 61.6 points per contest, the third-lowest figure ever. The opponent shooting mark of .401 was the seventh-lowest on record.

The Bruins ranked among the nation's top 25 in two categories -- seventh in rebound margin (8.7) and 24th in steals (10.7).

Chinyere Ibekwe





























# Pac-10 Standings and Honors

## Final Standings

|                  | Pac-10 Games |          |             |            |            | Overall   |           |             |             |            |            |
|------------------|--------------|----------|-------------|------------|------------|-----------|-----------|-------------|-------------|------------|------------|
|                  | W            | L        | Pct.        | Home       | Away       | W         | L         | Pct.        | Home        | Away       | Neutral    |
| Stanford         | 17           | 1        | .944        | 9-0        | 8-1        | 33        | 5         | .868        | 14-0        | 11-4       | 8-1        |
| California       | 15           | 3        | .833        | 8-1        | 7-2        | 27        | 7         | .794        | 13-2        | 8-2        | 6-3        |
| Arizona State    | 15           | 3        | .833        | 7-2        | 8-1        | 26        | 9         | .743        | 13-2        | 9-4        | 4-3        |
| <b>UCLA</b>      | <b>9</b>     | <b>9</b> | <b>.500</b> | <b>6-3</b> | <b>3-6</b> | <b>19</b> | <b>12</b> | <b>.613</b> | <b>13-3</b> | <b>5-8</b> | <b>1-1</b> |
| Oregon State     | 9            | 9        | .500        | 6-3        | 3-6        | 20        | 12        | .625        | 13-3        | 6-6        | 1-3        |
| USC              | 9            | 9        | .500        | 5-4        | 4-5        | 17        | 15        | .531        | 11-7        | 6-6        | 0-2        |
| Oregon           | 5            | 13       | .278        | 2-7        | 3-6        | 9         | 21        | .300        | 5-10        | 4-9        | 0-2        |
| Washington State | 4            | 14       | .222        | 2-7        | 2-7        | 11        | 19        | .367        | 5-8         | 6-9        | 0-2        |
| Arizona          | 4            | 14       | .222        | 2-7        | 2-7        | 12        | 19        | .387        | 6-8         | 3-9        | 3-2        |
| Washington       | 3            | 15       | .167        | 2-7        | 1-8        | 8         | 22        | .267        | 4-10        | 2-9        | 2-3        |



## All-Conference Team

### FIRST TEAM

| Name, School                | Pos. | Ht. | Yr.  | Hometown          |
|-----------------------------|------|-----|------|-------------------|
| Jayne Appel, Stanford       | F/C  | 6-4 | Jr.  | Pleasant Hill, CA |
| Alexis Gray-Lawson, Cal     | G    | 5-8 | Jr.R | Oakland, CA       |
| Ify Ibekwe, Arizona         | F    | 6-1 | So.  | Carson, CA        |
| Briann January, Ariz. State | G    | 5-8 | Sr.  | Spokane, WA       |
| Ashley Walker, Cal          | F/C  | 6-1 | Sr.  | Modesto, CA       |

### SECOND TEAM

| Name, School              | G | 5-10 | So.  | Alexandria, VA  |
|---------------------------|---|------|------|-----------------|
| Jillian Harmon, Stanford  | F | 6-1  | Sr.  | Lake Oswego, OR |
| Camille LeNoir, USC       | G | 5-6  | Sr.R | Los Angeles, CA |
| Jeanette Pohlen, Stanford | G | 6-0  | So.  | Brea, CA        |
| Dymond Simon, Ariz. State | G | 5-5  | Jr.  | Phoenix, AZ     |

### THIRD TEAM

| Name, School                 | G   | 5-8  | Jr.  | Auckland, New Zealand |
|------------------------------|-----|------|------|-----------------------|
| Brittney Davis, Oregon State | G   | 5-10 | Sr.R | Portland, OR          |
| Briana Gilbreath, USC        | G   | 6-1  | Fr.  | Katy, TX              |
| Devanei Hampton, Cal         | F/C | 6-3  | Sr.  | Oakland, CA           |
| Kayla Pedersen, Stanford     | F   | 6-4  | So.  | Fountain Hills, AZ    |

**Honorable Mention:** April Cook (Wash. St., Fr., G); Sybil Dosty (Ariz. St., Sr., C); Mercedes Fox-Griffin (Oregon St., Sr., G); Taylor Lilley (Oregon, Jr., G); Amina Njonkou (Arizona, Sr., F); Nadia Parker (USC, Sr., C); Jazmine Perkins (Wash. St., Fr., G); Talisa Rhea (Oregon St., So., G); **Erica Tukainen (UCLA, Jr., G)**; Natasha Vital (Cal, Jr., G); Sami Whitcomb (Washington, Jr., G).

## All-Freshman Team

| Name, School                 | Pos. | Ht.  | Hometown       |
|------------------------------|------|------|----------------|
| Atonye Nyingifa, UCLA        | G/F  | 5-11 | Torrance, CA   |
| Courtney Clements, Arizona   | F    | 6-0  | Long Beach, CA |
| Briana Gilbreath, USC        | G    | 6-1  | Katy, TX       |
| Nnemkadi Ogwumike, Stanford  | F    | 6-2  | Cypress, TX    |
| Jazmine Perkins, Wash. State | G    | 5-10 | Berkeley, CA   |

**Honorable Mention:** April Cook (Wash. St., G); Ashley Corral (USC, G); Jasmin Holliday (Oregon, F); Amanda Johnson (Oregon, F); Kristi Kingma (Washington, G).

## All-Defensive Team

| Name, School                   | Pos. | Ht. | Yr. | Hometown        |
|--------------------------------|------|-----|-----|-----------------|
| Mercedes Fox-Griffin, Ore. St. | G    | 5-7 | Sr. | La Jolla, CA    |
| Jillian Harmon, Stanford       | G    | 6-1 | Sr. | Lake Oswego, OR |
| Ify Ibekwe, Arizona            | F    | 6-1 | So. | Carson, CA      |
| Briann January, Ariz. St.      | G    | 5-8 | Sr. | Spokane, WA     |
| Ashley Walker, Cal             | F/C  | 6-1 | Sr. | Modesto, CA     |

**Honorable Mention:** Brittney Davis (Oregon St., Sr.R, G); Sybil Dosty (Ariz. St., Sr., C); Briana Gilbreath (USC, Fr., G); Rosalyn Gold-Onwude (Stanford, Jr.R, G); Heather Oliver (USC, Jr., G); Jazmine Perkins (Wash. St., Fr., G); Natasha Vital (Cal, Jr., G); Sami Whitcomb (Washington, Jr., G).

**PLAYER OF THE YEAR:** Jayne Appel, Stanford

**DEFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE YEAR:** Briann January, Arizona State

**COACH OF THE YEAR:** Tara VanDerveer, Stanford

**FRESHMAN OF THE YEAR:** Briana Gilbreath, USC

## 2008-09 STATE FARM PAC-10 TOURNAMENT

Mar. 12 at Galen Center

G1 - No. 10 Washington 69, No. 7 Oregon 43  
G2 - No. 9 Arizona 79, No. 8 Washington State 72

Mar. 13 at Galen Center

G3 - No. 6 USC 70, No. 3 Arizona State 65  
G4 - No. 2 California 61, No. 10 Washington 41  
G5 - No. 1 Stanford 77, No. 9 Arizona 46  
G6 - No. 4 UCLA 62, No. 5 Oregon State 56

Mar. 14 at Galen Center

G7 - No. 6 USC 69, No. 2 California 67  
G8 - No. 1 Stanford 73, No. 4 UCLA 47

Mar. 15 at Galen Center

G9 - No. 1 Stanford 89, No. 6 USC 64

## Did You Know?

**UCLA's Natalie Williams was only the second athlete, male or female, in Pac-10 history to earn three consecutive Pac-10 Player of the Week honors.**

**Williams was selected league Player of the Week 16 times in her career — eight in basketball and eight in volleyball.**

**She was selected three-straight weeks in basketball in the 1994 season.**



