



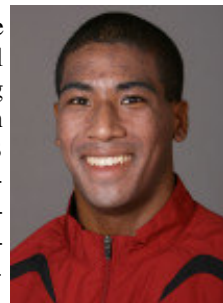
COLLEGE GYMNASTICS ASSOCIATION NCAA MEN'S GYMNASTICS PREVIEW 2010

By Jerry Wright

11-10-09



Although these are huge losses the team still has plenty of scoring power returning in Josh Dixon (1-FX, 2-V, 3-HB-MPSF), Tim Gentry (2-SR-MPSF; 4-SR, 3-V-NCAA), Nick Noone (5-SR-MPSF; 3-SR, 7-PB-NCAA), Kyle Oi (8-SR-MPSF; 7-SR-NCAA),



DIXON

Alex Buscaglia (4-V, 1-HB-MPSF; 10-V, 3-HB-NCAA), Ryan Lieberman (5-PB-NCAA), and Greg Ter-Zahariants (4-FX, 4-PH, 7-V, 7-PB-MPSF-possible Nissen-Emery nominee).

Freshman: Quality looking group with: Eddie Penev (Bulgaria), Paul Hichwa (Iowa), James Fosco (IL), and Jason Stevens (TX).

Summary: amazing what a taste of victory can do to a program; makes them want more.

Once again, gazing into my crystal ball, it is possible for me to predict that the 2010 Men's NCAA Gymnastics season is completely unpredictable.

It is even difficult to predict which teams might be in the top 12 because they all seem to be so equal for this coming season.

When I say equal I mean that there will be a five team race for the title between California, Illinois, Michigan, Oklahoma, and Stanford. After that there will be a small drop off for the next three between Minnesota, Ohio State and Penn State to determine who makes it to the Super Six. After that there will be Iowa and Nebraska in a group and then there will be a contest between UIC, William/Mary, Temple and Navy to decide the number 11 and 12 teams to advance to Nationals.

My wild guess is that this race is going to be for Michigan to win or lose. They have the ability to win if they are at their best.

(Please note that in the following I have generally listed only those gymnasts that placed in their conference meet or at the NCAA Nationals in '09.)

1. 2009 Runner-up **Michigan** loses 7 seniors, among which are Joe Catrambone (1-HB-BT; 5-HB-NCAA) and Ralph Rosso (7-SR-BT). This duo, however, accounted for only about 0.5 difference in the Team Finals score. In other words Michigan will be a serious factor again.

In addition Michigan still has the dynamic duo of Thomas Kelley (1-AA, 8-SR, 3-PB, 2-HB-Big Ten; 3-PB, 2-HB-NCAA) and Chris Cameron (2-AA, 2-FX-BigTen; 4-FX, 6-PH-



CAMERON



KELLEY

NCAA). They also return Phil Goldberg (1-SR-BT; 2-SR-NCAA), Adam Hamers (5-PH-Big Ten), Ben Baldus-Strauss (8-V-Big Ten), David Chan (7-PH-Big Ten-possible Nissen nominee), Ryan McCarthy (8-PB-Big Ten), and Torrance Laury.

Freshmen: Garret Hamers (OR), Monk Seaman (NY), and Rohan Sebastian (OK).

Summary: Kelley and Cameron will carry UM to the top.

2. Defending champion **Stanford** loses Bryant Hadden (1st-SR, 5-PH-MPSF, 8-SR-NCAA), Sho Nakamori (1st 4 events-MPSF, 4-PB, 4-HB-NCAA), and Jason Shen.

- | | |
|-------------------|----------------------|
| Pre-Season | 9. Nebraska |
| Coaches Poll: | 10. Iowa |
| 1. Stanford (8) | 11. UIC |
| 2. California (4) | 12. Temple |
| 3. Oklahoma (3) | 13. William & Mary |
| 4. Michigan (1) | 14. Air Force |
| 5. Illinois | 15. Navy |
| 6. Penn State | 16. Springfield/Army |
| 7. Ohio State | |
| 8. Minnesota | |

3. **Illinois** produced some outstanding freshmen and sophomore talent last season and this bodes very well for 2010. Even without Coach Yoshi Hayasaki the talent is there for the Illini to make a run for the National title.

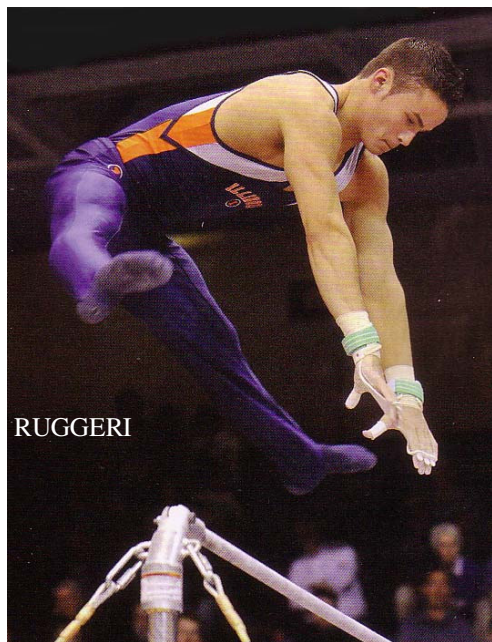
New Head Coach Justin Spring has jammed 20 years experience into his 4 years as a competitor and 3 years as Assistant Coach at Illinois and is ready to take over.

Leading the Illini will be the amazing Paul Ruggeri who has won 3 NCAA titles in two years and came close to winning two more. In addition he won two Big Ten titles in '09.

Also returning will be the very talented and very competitive Tyler Mizoguchi (6-FX, 7-PB-Big Ten), C.J. Padera (3-PH-Big Ten), Dan Ribeiro (1-PH-NCAA, 6-PH-Big Ten), Roger Pasek (6-FX-NCAA). Also coming back is the very talented soph. Austin Phil-

2010 NISSEN-EMERY FAVORITE





RUGGERI

lips, Brian Liscovitz (5-PB, 8-HB-Big Ten), Luke Stannard (1-PH-Big Ten, 1-PH-USAG-possible Nissen nominee), and Tyler Williamson (4-SR-Big Ten).

Losses are: Ross Bradley, Chris Lung (4-PH-Big Ten; 10 HB-NCAA) and Nick Strango (6-SR-Big Ten).

Freshmen: Only one listed at this time: Malcolm Brown (IL).

Summary: This is a group of determined and talented gymnasts that will never give up.

4. California Coach Barry Weiner has indicated that he thinks he will have the best team he has ever had and this takes into consideration that his teams placed first in 1997 and 1998, so this is saying a lot.

California loses the great Kyson Bunthuwong (6-AA, 7-FX, 2-PB-MPSF; 9-PH, 4-AA-NCAA) but retains brother Kyle (3-AA, 6-FX, 6-PH, 6-HB-MPSF; 10-PH, 5-AA-NCAA), Glen Ishino (5-AA, 5-V, 3-PB-MPSF; 4-PH, 5-PB, 2-AA-NCAA), Jim Kerry



ISHINO

(8-PB-NCAA), and Bryan del Castillo (6-HB-NCAA).

Cal also loses Kyle Brady (5-SR, 5-PB-

MPSF; 6-SR, 2-PB-NCAA), Evan Roth (4-SR-MPSF; 1-SR, 5-V-NCAA).

This observer does not see the incoming freshmen being able to replace Kyson Bunthuwong.

Freshmen: Dennis Mannhart (Swiss), Donathon Bailey, Steven Lacombe, Jeffrey Langenstein, Christain Monteclaro, and Jean-Nathan Monteclaro (all from CA).

Summary: Cal is traditionally so thin depth wise, that a single key injury could be devastating. Freshmen might overcome this.

5. Oklahoma loses Chris Brooks (2-AA, 7-PH, 3-V, 4-HB-MPSF; 6-AA-NCAA), but return the incredible Steven Legendre (1-AA, 1-FX, 1-V-, 9-HB-NCAA).



LEGENDRE

They also return Ian Jackson (injured early last season, but expected to return fully recovered). The tough part for OU is they do not return any other MPSF or NCAA place winners other than Corey English (3-PH-MPSF).

To add to the problem OU also loses Russ Czeschin (6-V-MPSF and 8-V-NCAA), Jason Laughton (5-HB-MPSF), Kyle McNamara (10-PB, 7-HB-NCAA), and Jacob Messina (7-PB, 6-HB-MPSF and 8-PH-NCAA).

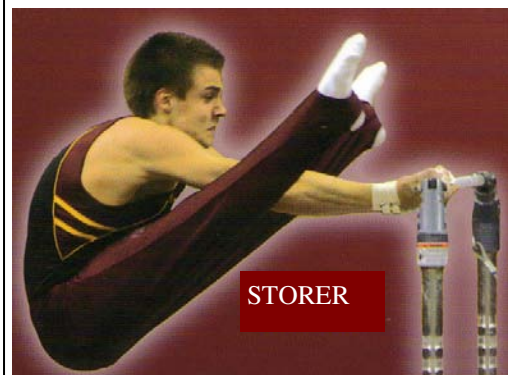
In view of this Oklahoma just may be a bit down in '10.

Freshmen: Great group of rookies that could take OU all the way to the top. Top two JO AA Champions Alex Naddour and Jake Dalton (NV) plus Chris Stehl —WOW!!!

Summary: The trouble with OU is that a few years ago, after losing about half their team, I predicted they would be down the next year and instead they turned it around and won Nationals.

6. Minnesota loses Ed Campbell and Alex Quest (neither of whom figured prominently in the '09 post-season), and Kit Beikmann (2-PH-Big Ten; 5-PH-NCAA), but return an extremely solid team.

Major returnees: Cole Storer (6-FX, 7-V-Big Ten-possible Nissen nominee), Andre Berry, Aaron Fortunato (5-AA, 6-HB-Big



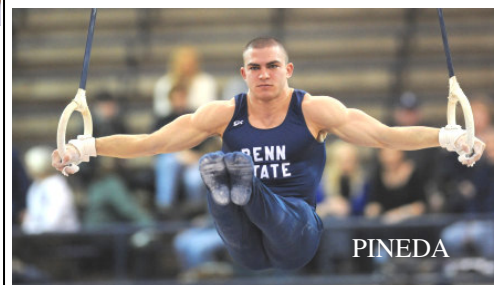
STORER

Ten; 12-AA-NCAA-possible Nissen nominee), Colin McGuire, Adam Richow D.J. Repp (7-AA, 5-V-Big Ten; 6-V-NCAA), and Russell Dabritz (2-PB-Big Ten).

Frosh: Harris Coleman (FL), Steve Lippoli (OH), Jesse Moravec (MN), and Josh Wokurka (IL).

Summary: Almost certain to be even better in 2010.

7. Penn State loses Casey Sandy (injured post-season-'09 but a huge loss), but returns Miguel Pineda (hopefully at full strength after injury).



PINEDA

Other losses include Shawn Antonio (5-HB-Big Ten) and Josh Borromeo.

Also returning will be Allen Harris (5-FX-Big Ten), Noam Shaham (8-AA-Big Ten; 10-AA-NCAA-possible Nissen nominee), and Nick Virbitsky (8-FX, 3-V-Big Ten).

Freshmen: Tony Beck (PA), Matthew Chalberg (OH), MacKenzie Dow (NJ), Matthew Flowers (CA), Nick Grant (PA), Nihir Kothari (PA), Parker Raque (KY), Scott Rosenthal (PA), and Francisco Vazquez (VA).

Summary: Unfortunately, the teams prospects do not appear to be very good as far as a Big Ten or National title.

8. Ohio State has been difficult to evaluate for the past several seasons and with the loss of Jake Bateman (3-AA, 4-FX, 5-SR, 6-V, 6-PB, 7-HB-Big Ten; 4-SR, 9-AA-NCAA), Pejman Ebrahimi, Eddie Hay (10-FX-

NCAA), and Andy Sauber, they will once again be a question mark.

They had a very good season last year in spite of losing the services of Alexy Bilozertchev, who decided college gymnastics was not for him, and Tai Lee, who was expected to be a strong factor but was not.

Returning: Tai Lee, Justin Myers (had ups and downs in '09, but has potential) Sachar Tal (4-PB-Big Ten; 9-SR-NCAA-possible Nissen nominee), Phillip Onorato (Big Ten



Frosh/Year, 6-AA, 2-SR, 2-V-Big Ten), Ty Echard (8-PH-Big Ten; 3-PH-NCAA), Brandon Wynn (3-SR-BigTen), and Steven Spencer (2-PH-NCAA).

Freshmen: The quantity is certainly there with 8 newcomers and if the quality is there look out for OSU: Brandt Gomez-RFR (TN), Elliott Hardy-RFR (TX), John Laing (MA, Brady Lievens (NC), Blaize Monks (NC), Sean Reilly (CA), C.J. Weir-RFR (NJ), and Neil Zybur (IL).

Summary: With their returning potential OSU could be a surprise team in 2010.

Ohio State has just announced that they will host the 2011 NCAA Men's Nationals.

9. Iowa will almost certainly be much stronger, with a solid returning group and a good recruiting class.

Losses include Diego Mercado-Austin and Geoffrey Reins (3-FX, 1-V-Big Ten; 2-V-NCAA).

Their top returnee will be Jonathan Buese (14th-AA-NCAA-potential Nissen nominee).



Freshmen: Todd Becker, Anton Gryshayev, Timm Krueger, Jack McClay, and Roddy Shemansky.

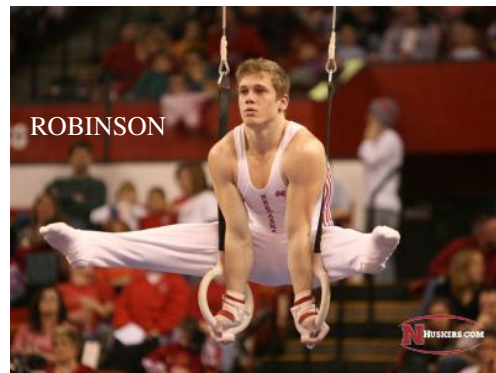
Summary: Iowa still does not appear ready to escape the Big Ten basement.

10. Nebraska appears to have lost that elusive quality that produces National Champions and has had to settle for also-ran status. This status apparently will continue for the foreseeable future.

Not only this, but recent news suggests that the entire program could be considered an endangered species. **Legendary coach Francis Allen has announced his retirement.** Long time assistant coach Chuck Chmelka has been named to replace Allen, with Jim Hartung to remain on as the assistant coach.

Losses are Jacob Ives, James Mauldin (7-PH-MPSF) and T.J. Schmidt (2-PH-MPSF).

Returnees include John Robinson (8-HB-MPSF; 11-AA-NCAA-potential Nissen nomi-



nee) and Kyle Shanahan (8-HB-MPSF; 11-AA-NCAA).

Freshmen: Ben Hall, Michael Heredia, Andreas Hofer, Cliff Kohut, Mark Ringle, Gabrielle Sanchez, and Baier Wyatt.

Summary: another frustrating season for this former national power.

11. UIC should be just as strong as in 2009 in spite of losing 11 seniors. They retain Andrew Stover (2-AA, 6-SR-6-HB-ECAC; 13-AA-NCAA) and Neal Thompson (4-AA, 7-PH, 1-PB-ECAC) plus about 30 others.

Top losses will be Jeff Bill (6-FX-ECAC), Anthony May (8-AA-ECAC) and Bobby Solomon (6-V-ECAC).

Other returnees include Alex Kadar (8-SR-ECAC), and Nikoloi Korepanov (3-SR-ECAC).

Freshmen: Andre Gatorano (IL), Nic Grantham (CA), David Ishida (CA), Justin Maxwell (IL), Bryan Pusateri (IL),

Mateusz Rybarski (IL), Gary Soper (IL), Kyle Voissem (WI), Dan Zerbel (MI).

Summary: Should repeat as ECAC champs, but Navy may have some say about this.

12. U.S. Naval Academy loses significant

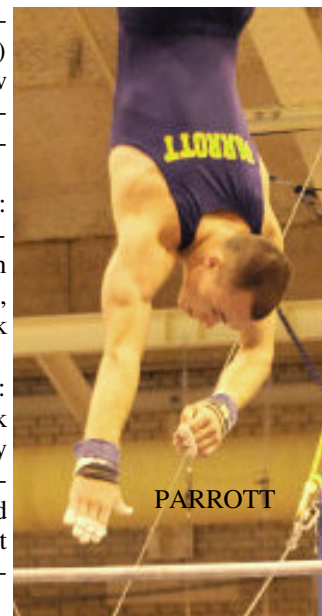
talent but also return some fine young talent.

Losses include Joseph Atzenbeck (1-PH, 1-HB-ECAC; 1-HB, 5-PB-USAG), Ken Lee (5-V-ECAC) Adam Stanton (5-SR, 2-PB-ECAC; 3-PH, 5-SR-USAG), plus James Godfrey (3-FX-ECAC), and Trey James (4-HB-USAG

Returning will be two outstanding All Arounders in Dylan Parrott (1-AA, 1-FX, 3-PB, 7-HB-ECAC; 3-AA, 1-FX, 2-V-USAG) and Andrew Faulk (6-AA-ECAC; 5-AA, 2-FX-USAG).

Freshmen: Christopher Bowen (FL), Ian Lassonde (MA), and Austin Zalik (PA).

Summary: Parrott and Faulk may carry Navy to a USAG National title and threaten UIC at the ECAC championships.



13. William and Mary had a rare up and down season last year (they are usually very consistent), but they will almost certainly be stronger in 2010. They do lose some important talent in Sloan Crawford (2-HB-ECAC), James Prim (2-PH, 3-SR, 1-PB-USAG), Jay Hilbun (2-HB-USAG), and Richard Pearson (1-PH-USAG), but they have a young team that is ready to come of age.

Their up part of last season was their shocking USAG Nationals Team Title. Their down part was failing to qualify for Div. I Nationals.

Leading their returnees will be the remarkable consistent National USAG Champ Derek Gygax (7-AA, 8-FX, 4-PB, 3-HB-ECAC; 1-AA, 5-V, 5-HB-USAG). Plus Andy Hunter (2-PH, 6-PB-ECAC; 6-PB-USAG) and Josh Fried (3-FX-USAG).

Freshmen: Fine looking group: Matt Burns (NJ), Cory Cauthen (AL), Futa Ikeda (UT),

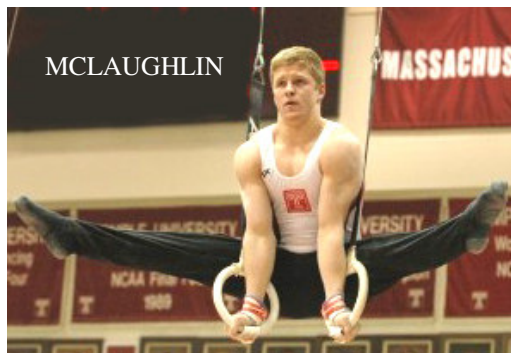


Vince Smurro (NJ), Vietvuong Vo (VA), Kris Yeager (OR), transfers: Dave Ellis (MA), and Pat Vaughn (MA).

Summary: Will contend for USAG title and for ECAC title; should be close.

14. Temple loses John Vogtman who, prior to his injury was headed for near greatness, but never fully recovered (7-SR-ECAC).

They do return some talent in Pat McLaughlin (3-AA, 8-PH, 4-V, 7-PB-ECAC), Adam



Al-Rokh (2-PH-ECAC), Scott Bloomfield (6-FX-ECAC) and Tyler Croteau (5-PH-ECAC).

Frosh: Zachary Aquiar (PA), John Gaffney (MA), Allan Malone (TN), Dashiell Sears (PA), Brett Statman (NY), Alex Tighe (WI), and Assaf Zoor (Israel).

Summary: Temple will be hard pressed to top W/M, Navy and UIC to make it to the big show, or to win the ECAC.

15. Air Force Academy-could be a much improved team in '10, although they lose Jake Schonig (1-SR-USAG) their sure SR winner in most meets. Also lost will be Josiah Loesser (2-SR-USAG), but those are their only two losses.

Returning will be some fine gymnasts in Nash Mills (8-AA-MPSF), David Manefee (7



-V-MPSF) Joel Uptmor (5-FX-USAG) and Jacob Houder (4-PH, 3-HB-USAG).

Freshmen: Tory Brown (OR), Alex Jessop (OH), Travis Langham (CA), James Okamoto (CA), Nicholas Owen (GA), Carl Rossi (MA), and Thomas Wilkinson (TX).

Summary: With limited recruiting opportunities the service academies are destined to fight up-hill battles against other Div. I teams. However, this large recruiting class could make a difference.

16. Springfield College enjoyed one of its best seasons ever in '09 and '10 should be just as good or even better with the surprising Ty Evans (3-FX, 1-V, 5-PB-ECAC; 2-AA, 4-FX, 1-V-USAG) leading the way.



Another year of beating up on Army would make the Pride very Proud.

Losses include Matt Bolognese (1-SR-ECAC; 6-SR-USAG) and Andy Kelly (8-PB-ECAC; 4-PB, USAG) plus 4 others.

Also returning will be National qualifiers Josh Fox-FX-HB (5-AA, 2-FX, 5-HB-ECAC), J.J. Ferreira (FX) and Matt Tocchio (PH), plus Michael Freundlich (5-PH-USAG), Kyle Bartgis (2-PB-USAG) and Josh Spencer (6-HB-USAG).

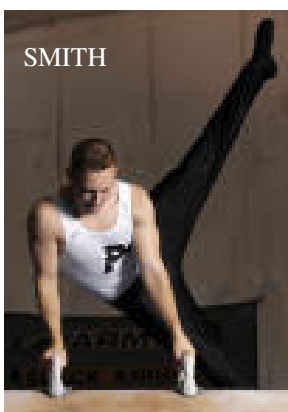
Freshmen: Springfield is currently preparing for their 100th annual exhibition show and are not yet working out as a team. The following have expressed interest in the team, but all may not be retained. Michael Anderson- TX, Stephen Bazzano- CT, Devonte Brown- MA., Joe Carlson-CT, Chris Jost-MA, Kevin Miiner- CT., Alex McCabe-MN., Jimmy Pezzino- NY, Rich Ruggiero-CT., Nic Secchetti-PA., Giuseppe Verzino- CT, Jeff White-MA.

Summary: For a Div. III school Springfield will be a very respectable team, but Goliath will win these battles.

17. U.S. Military Academy will be a different team in '10 but may not be ready to slip completely out of their slump.

Army does not lose anyone who placed in the top 6 at the ECAC nor do they have anyone returning in that category.

Freshmen: Appears to be an excellent freshman class: Jared Breeden (GA), Gregory Fearnley (Conn), Nicholas



Fettinger (MI), Jared Griffin (GA), Garrek Hojan-Clark (WI), Michael Jakub (NJ), and Kip Webber (MA).

Summary: With this group of freshmen Army could be the most improved team of 2010.

NISSEN-EMERY AWARD

As fearless as I am as a forecaster I am completely unable to even venture a guess as to who is the favorite to win the Nissen-Emery Award. This is the most evenly qualified field of candidates I have ever seen.

Potential Nissen-Emery Candidates:

Derek Gyax-College of William/Mary
Justin Myers-Ohio State
Sachar Tal-Ohio State
Noam Shaham-Penn State
Nick Virbitsky-Penn State
Matt Tocchio-Springfield
Greg Ter-Zahariants -Stanford
Pat McLaughlin-Temple
Luke Stannard-U. Illinois
Andrew Stover-U. ILL-Chicago
Jonathan Buese-U. Iowa
David Chan-U. Michigan
Cole Storer-U. Minnesota
Aaron Fortunato-U. Minnesota
John Robinson-U. Nebraska
Corey English-U. Oklahoma

Results of my predictions for 2009 :

Picked Stanford for first and they won.
Picked Oklahoma for 2nd and they were 3rd.
Picked Michigan for 3rd and they were 2nd.
Picked California for 5th and they were 4th.
Picked Illinois for 9th and they were 5th.
Picked Ohio State for 6th and they were 6th.
Picked Penn State for 4th and they were 7th.
Picked Minnesota for 8th and they were 8th.
Picked Nebraska for 7th and they were 9th.
Picked UIC for 10th and they were 10th.
Picked Iowa for 11th and they were 11th.
Picked Navy for 13th and they were 12th.

CLUB REPORTS:

ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY

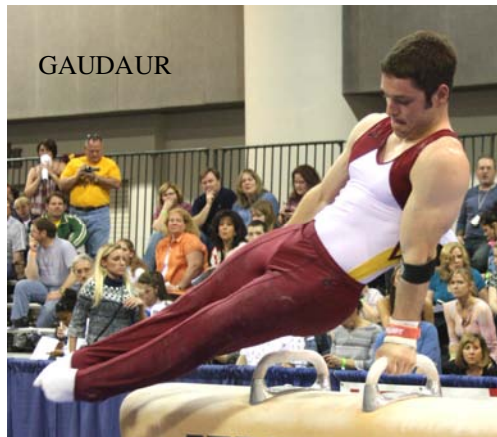
Now beginning their 17th year as a "club" team, the team continues to grow in stature among its peers around the country.

With 8 new faces, this team is young with a lot of potential and room to grow. The team numbers 21 members strong, which encourages lots of internal competition just to make the team on each event.

Last year, the Devils retained the National Team Title in the Club Division of the USAG Collegiate National Championships and are looking to try to hold on to that title again this year.

Returning: All American Charles Baysinger (6-AA0USAG) and Dillon Saunders, All Americans Alex Gaudaur (1st-AA-USAG) and Riley Barclay (5th AA-USAG), plus Cody Payne, Josh Bradley and Brock Leinberger.

Freshmen: Strong group features: Stewart MacDonald (AZ), Alex Cozza (AZ), Mychael Ramirez (CA), Sam Cook (MN), Hans Degnan (NH), Brian



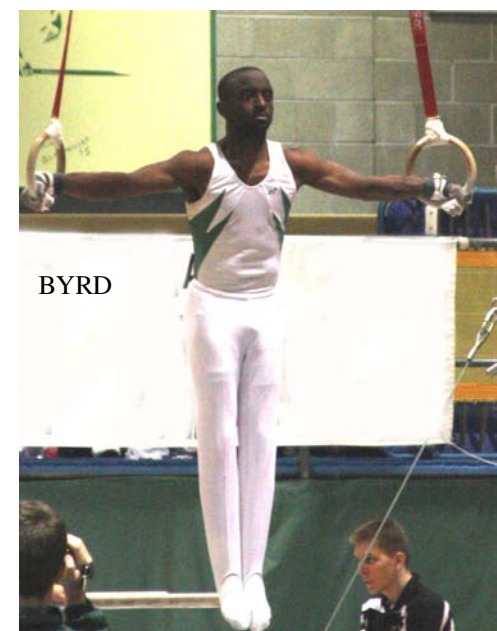
Malone (MA), Riley Morlen (FL) and Lee Wilkerson (GA).

COLLEGE OF BROCKPORT:

Brockport continues to build momentum as the team enters the 2010 season. Excitement is in the air as this team brings with them a new forged hope within the men's gymnastics community. The Golden Eagles will compete a full schedule against varsity teams for the first time, and plan on exploding onto the scene. With last year's entire team returning and the addition of some young new talent this team is heading in the right direction.

Team Captain Shaun Johnson said "I believe we have a real shot at making an impact this season, and are posed to make a run at the USAG Collegiate Club National Championship."

Head Coach A.J. Banker says "Don't underesti-



mate the talent level of our team; this season is just the beginning of a bright future for this program."

Returning: Kenneth Byrd, Brian Gildemeyer, Shaun Johnson, Yusuke Nemoto, Thomas Jedik.

Freshmen: Ron Ayello (NY), Matt Power (NY);

Transfers: Paul Ferraro (NY), Travis Silcox (NY).

CALENDAR OF MAJOR EVENTS

Nov. 23/24	Blue/Gold	Navy
Dec. 11	Intrasquad	Minn.
Dec. 5	Silver/Blue	Air Force
Dec. 6	Mixed Pairs	Illinois
Dec. 12	Maize/Blue	Michigan
Dec. 5	Black/Gold	Iowa
Dec. 4	Intrasquad	W/Mary
Dec. 5	Mixed Pairs	Ill-Chi.
Dec. 11	Intrasquad	Nebraska
Dec. 16	Scarlet/Gray	Ohio St.
Dec.20	Maroon/Gold	Minn.
Jan. 8	Cardinal/White	Stanford
Jan. 16	Rocky Mt. Open	Air Force
Jan. 16	Windy City Inv.	Ill-Chi
Jan.15/16	West Point Open	Army
Jan. 23	Navy Open	Navy
Jan. 29	Stanford Open	Stanford
Feb. 4-5	Winter Cup	Las Vegas
Feb. 7	Virginia State	W/Mary
Feb. 13	All Academy	Calif.
Feb. 13	Gold Country Inv.	Livermore
Feb. 21	New England Ch.Spfld.	
Feb. 20	Pacific Coast Cl.	Oakland
Feb. 26	Southwest Cup	Ariz. St.
Mar. 3	Stanford vs. Canada	Canada
Mar. 26/27	USAG Collegiate	Air Force
Ap. 2-3	Big Ten Champs	Ohio St.
Ap 3	MPSF Champs	Oklahoma
Ap 2-3	ECAC Champs	W/Mary
Ap. 14	CGA Awards Banquet	Army
Ap. 15-17	NCAA Nationals	Army