



OKLAHOMA'S STEVEN LEGENDRE WINS 2011 NISSEN-EMERY AWARD

By Jerry Wright



Coach Mark Williams/Steven Legendre

The first 6 letters of his last name define Steven Legendre (legend). From the moment Steve Legendre put on an Oklahoma uniform he became an instant collegiate phenomenon. In his first collegiate competition he won the Rocky Mountain Open All Around and Floor Exercise events, and the rest is history.

In the 2011 NCAA Nationals he placed 4th in AA, 2nd in FX and 6th on HB. In the 2011 MPSF he placed 2nd in FX and in V.

In 2010 he claimed his 6th career NCAA title having won the FX event 3 years in a row, the Vault two times and the All Around once. He was the first freshman in OU history to win two NCAA event titles, earning national crowns on floor and vault.

He has also captured three career event titles at the MPSF Conference Championships.

He has been a member of the U.S. National Team for 5 years and has competed in the following international competitions:

2010 World Championships, Rotterdam, Netherlands: 4th-Team, 8th-FX; 2010 Pacific Rim Championships, Melbourne, Australia: 1st-Team; 3rd-FX; 4th-VT; 10th-AA; 2009 World Championships, London, England: 8th-FX; 2008 Toyota Cup, Japan, 3rd-VT; 5th-FX; 6th-PB, HB; 2007 Junior Pan American Championships, Guatemala City, Guatemala: 1st-Team, 1st-AA.

Attended Spring Creek Academy in Plano, Texas and Port Jefferson HS in Port Jefferson, N.Y. Also competed on the wrestling team at Port Jefferson.

Personal: Full name is Steven Michael Legendre, majoring in multidisciplinary studies. Born in Port Jefferson, N.Y. ... He is the son of Raymond (retired police officer) and Lisa Legendre (retired nurse). Sister, Jessica, is a member of the OU softball team, brothers Jaime, a medical school student and Michael, who plays baseball, soccer and football. ...

In his acceptance speech Steven expressed the fact that he was a little nervous, because "winning this award means a lot to me." He said that he was honored to win the award in view of "the incredible group of finalists he was up against."

In closing Steven expressed his thanks to the U. of Oklahoma for the opportunities provided him, to his girlfriend (not in attendance), his teammates and his family. In a very sensitive moment Steven choked up a bit when he spoke about the sacrifices his family has made for him over the years.

