



OKLAHOMA  
WOMEN'S GYMNASTICS

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DATE	OPPONENT	TIME/RESULTS
Friday, Jan. 9	@No. 3 Florida	L (196.500-195.075)
Saturday, Jan. 17	@Texas Woman's	W (197.175-189.600)
Monday, Jan. 26	Arkansas	L (196.900-195.625)
Friday, Jan. 30	Minnesota	W (196.500-195.675)
Sunday, Feb. 8	@Nebraska	2 p.m.
Saturday, Feb. 14	@Denver	7 p.m.
Friday, Feb. 20	Brown/Missouri/W. Va.	7 p.m.
Friday, Feb. 27	@Iowa State	7 p.m.
Friday, March 6	TWU/Illinois State	7 p.m.
Friday, March 13	@Alabama/with UNC	7:30 p.m.
Saturday, March 21	@Big 12 Championships*	2 p.m.
Saturday, April 4	@NCAA Regional Champ.	TBA
April 17-19	@NCAA Championships**	TBA

\* — CONTESTED IN AMES, IOWA  
\*\* — TO BE HELD IN LINCOLN, NEBRASKA

**TIMES ARE CENTRAL AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE**  
**ALL HOME MEETS ARE AT THE LLOYD NOBLE CENTER**

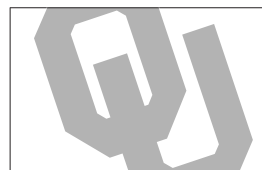
**SUNDAY, FEB. 8 | 2:00 P.M. (CT) | BOB DEVANEY CENTER | LINCOLN, NEB.**



**NO. 12 NEBRASKA CORNHUSKERS (3-1)**

2009 TROESTER RANKINGS  
Team: 195.187 (12th)  
Vault: 48.850 (16th) | Bars: 48.587 (21st)  
Beam: 48.812 (12th) | Floor: 48.937 (Ninth)

VERSUS



**NO. 7 OKLAHOMA SOONERS (2-2)**

2009 TROESTER RANKINGS  
Team: 196.094 (Seventh)  
Vault: 49.031 (Seventh) | Bars: 49.081 (Sixth)  
Beam: 48.962 (Sixth) | Floor: 49.019 (Sixth)

**NO. 7 OKLAHOMA OPENS CONFERENCE PLAY AT 12TH-RANKED NEBRASKA**

Ranked seventh in the latest poll, the OU women's gymnastics squad travels to No. 12 Nebraska for its Big 12 opener on Sunday, Feb. 8, at 2 p.m. (CT), inside the Bob Devaney Center. The Sooners are coming off of a 196.500-195.675 victory over No. 21 Minnesota on Jan. 30 in OU's "Beauty and the Beast" spectacular.

OU won three events against the Golden Gophers, as Oklahoma gymnasts also took home individual titles on vault (Melanie Root - 9.875), bars (Hollie Vise - 9.875) and floor (Jackie Flanery, Haley DeProspero and Ashley Jackson - 9.85 for all three). Root's career-high-tying vault against Minnesota resulted in the first event title for the Cartersville, Ga., native.

Oklahoma holds the top spot in the Big 12 on all four events and the Sooners are the only conference squad to have a gymnast in the top two of the individual apparatus rankings on all four events.

The Sooners defeated NU in both meetings last year, by an average margin of 0.6 of a point, en route to their first Big 12 title since 2004.

**OPPONENT PREVIEW**

After losing its season opener at Denver on Jan. 10, Nebraska has reeled off three consecutive wins including a pair of Big 12 road victories over conference foes Iowa State and Missouri on back-to-back weekends.

The Huskers enter Sunday's meet off of a 195.325 - 194.625 victory over Penn State in their home opener on Jan. 30. Nebraska took home event titles on bars and beam against PSU and hit the 49-mark on floor.

No. 12 NU ranks 16th nationally on vault (48.85), 21st on uneven bars (48.587), 12th on beam (48.812) and ninth on floor (48.937). Individually, junior Kylie Stone ranks third in the NCAA on floor (9.881), while senior Tricia Woo stands 10th in the country on beam with a season average of 9.862 for the reigning Big 12 co-champion on the apparatus.



2008 Big 12 Champs

gymnast to watch:  
**Melanie Root**



The reigning co-Big 12 Event Specialist of the Week tied career-highs on vault (9.875) and bars (9.825) against No. 21 Minnesota en route to her first collegiate event title (vault). The Cartersville, Ga., native's bars score was higher than all but one of Minnesota's competitors, as Root led Oklahoma to event wins on vault and bars. Root's bars routine resulted in the top score of any Big 12 event specialist on the apparatus, while her vault tally was higher than all but one conference event specialist on the week.



The official site of OU Athletics supplies Sooner fans worldwide with the latest news and features on Oklahoma athletics direct from Norman. The site provides the latest press releases, rosters, bios, schedules, statistics, notes, quotes, athlete blogs, photo galleries and audio and video available to both Sooner fans and the media.

# OKLAHOMA SOONERS

NAME	HEIGHT	YEAR	HOMETOWN (HIGH SCHOOL)	CLUB	PRONUNCIATION
Cindell, Candace	5-5	So.	Frisco, Texas (Frisco HS)	Kurt Thomas Gymnastics	sin-DELL
DeProspero, Haley	5-0	Sr.	Van Alstyne, Texas (Plano Christian Academy)	University of Gymnastics	dee-PROSS-per-oh
Ferguson, Megan	4-11	Fr.	Olathe, Kan. (Blue Valley HS)	Eagles Gymnastics	
Flanery, Jacqueline	5-5	Jr.	Plattsburg, Mo. (Plattsburg HS)	Eagles Gymnastics	
Jackson, Ashley	5-1	Sr.	Hudsonville, Mich. (East Kentwood HS)	Geddart's Twisters	
Kelley, Natasha	5-4	Fr.	Katy, Texas (Home schooled)	Cypress Academy	
Kinder, Jessica	5-2	Sr.	Kansas City, Mo. (Raytown HS)	Best Gymnastics	KIN-der
Kramer, Julie	5-2	Jr.	Uvalde, Texas (Baylor Univ. / Uvalde HS)	Acrotex Gymnastics	
Lesko, Gina	5-3	Sr.	Allen, Texas (Allen HS)	University of Gymnastics	
Mantle, Mary	5-4	Jr.	Ft. Collins, Colo. (Rocky Mountain HS)	GK Gymnastics	
Ratcliff, Natalie	5-5	So.	Overland Park, Kan. (Blue Valley Northwest HS)	GAGE	
Root, Melanie	5-3	So.	Cartersville, Ga. (Cartersville HS)	Cartersville Twisters	
Smith, Kristin	5-3	Jr.	Oklahoma City, Okla. (Putnam City HS)	Dynamo Gymnastics	
Stone, Sara	5-4	Fr.	Dallas, Texas (Spring Creek Academy)	Metroplex Gymnastics	
Vise, Hollie	5-5	Jr.	Dallas, Texas (Spring Creek Academy)	WOGA	VICE
Wagner, Hailey	5-2	Fr.	Tulsa, Okla. (Metro Christian Academy)	Jenks Gymnastics	HAY-lee

## OKLAHOMA COACHING STAFF

**Head Coach:** K.J. Kindler, Third Year **Assistant Coaches:** Lou Ball, Third Year | Tom Haley, Third Year



CANDACE CINDELL



HALEY DEPROSPERO



MEGAN FERGUSON



JACKIE FLANERY



ASHLEY JACKSON



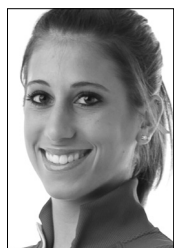
NATASHA KELLEY



JESSICA KINDER



JULIE KRAMER



GINA LESKO



MARY MANTLE



NATALIE RATCLIFF



MELANIE ROOT



KRISTIN SMITH



SARA STONE



HOLLIE VISE



HAILEY WAGNER

## GENERAL INFORMATION

Location ..... Norman, Okla.  
 Enrollment ..... 29,721  
 Founded ..... 1890  
 President ..... David L. Boren  
 VP/Athletics Director ..... Joe Castiglione  
 Nickname ..... Sooners  
 Colors ..... Crimson & Cream  
 Conference ..... Big 12  
 Arena ..... Lloyd Noble Center  
 Capacity ..... 12,000  
 OU's All-Time Record ..... 390-197-1

## TEAM INFORMATION

2009 Overall Record ..... 2-2  
 High Score ..... 197.175  
 2008 Big 12 Finish ..... First  
 2008 NCAA Finish ..... Eighth  
 Letterwinners Returning/Lost ..... 11/3  
 All-Americans Returning/Lost ..... 0/2

## COACHING STAFF

Head Coach ..... K.J. Kindler  
 Year ..... Third Season  
 Alma Mater ..... Iowa State, 1992  
 Record at OU ..... 51-18-1  
 Career Record ..... 130-58-2  
 Assistant Coach ..... Lou Ball  
 Year ..... Third Season  
 Alma Mater ..... Iowa State, 1999  
 Assistant Coach ..... Tom Haley  
 Year ..... Third Season

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 Gaylord Family – Oklahoma Memorial Stadium  
 Suite 2525, 180 W. Brooks St., Norman, OK 73019

## PRACTICE POLICY

Practices are held at the Sam Viersen Center, directly north and across the street (Imhoff) from the Lloyd Noble Center. Practices are typically open to media. However, those who wish to attend must obtain clearance through Phillip Rogers in the Media Relations Office prior to the start of practice. Practice generally runs from 10:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. The best time to conduct interviews is immediately following practice.

## CREDENTIAL REQUESTS

Media credentials for home contests at the Lloyd Noble Center should be requested no later than one day prior to the event. All requests should be directed to Phillip Rogers in the Media Relations Office at (405) 325-8413 or by e-mail to philliprogers@ou.edu.

## POST-MEET INFORMATION

Post-meet interviews will take place on the main floor of the Lloyd Noble Center after head coach K.J. Kindler dismisses her athletes. Official score sheets will be available at the scorer's table.

## MEDIA INTERVIEWS

Non-postmeet interview requests for athletes and coaches must be arranged through Phillip Rogers in the Media Relations Office. All requests should be submitted at least one day in advance of the desired interview time.

## 2009 MARCH-IN ORDER

NAME	CLASS	HOMETOWN	PRONUNCIATION
1. Megan Ferguson	Fr.	Olathe, Kan.	
2. Natasha Kelley	Fr.	Katy, Texas	
3. Sara Stone	Fr.	Dallas, Texas	
4. Hailey Wagner	Fr.	Tulsa, Okla.	
5. Candace Cindell	So.	Frisco, Texas	sin-DELL
6. Natalie Ratcliff	So.	Overland Park, Kan.	
7. Melanie Root	So.	Cartersville, Ga.	
8. Jackie Flanery	Jr.	Plattsburg, Mo.	
9. Julie Kramer	Jr.	Uvalde, Texas	
10. Mary Mantle	Jr.	Bellvue, Colo.	
11. Kristin Smith	Jr.	Oklahoma City, Okla.	
12. Hollie Vise	Jr.	Dallas, Texas	VICE
13. Haley DeProspero	Sr.	Van Alstyne, Texas	dee-PROSS-per-oh
14. Ashley Jackson	Sr.	Hudsonville, Mich.	
15. Jessica Kinder	Sr.	Kansas City, Mo.	KIN-der
16. Gina Lesko	Sr.	Allen, Texas	

## COACHING STAFF

K.J. Kindler ..... Head Coach (Third Year)  
 Lou Ball ..... Assistant Coach (Third Year)  
 Tom Haley ..... Assistant Coach (Third Year)

## 2009 GYMINFO POLL

RANK	TEAM	AVERAGE	REGION	HIGH SCORE
1	Utah	196.700	NC	197.050
2	UCLA	196.480	W	197.125
3	Georgia	196.320	SE	197.175
-	<b>Arkansas</b>	<b>196.320</b>	<b>SC</b>	<b>196.900</b>
5	Auburn	196.225	C	196.575
6	Stanford	196.100	W	196.775
<b>7</b>	<b>Oklahoma</b>	<b>196.094</b>	<b>SC</b>	<b>197.175</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>Florida</b>	<b>196.087</b>	<b>SE</b>	<b>196.500</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>Alabama</b>	<b>196.075</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>196.525</b>
10	Oregon State	195.635	W	196.650
11	LSU	195.380	C	196.575
<b>12</b>	<b>Nebraska</b>	<b>195.187</b>	<b>SC</b>	<b>195.750</b>
<b>13</b>	<b>Missouri</b>	<b>194.975</b>	<b>SC</b>	<b>195.375</b>
14	Illinois-Champaign	194.606	SC	195.500
15	Penn State	194.556	NE	195.875
16	Michigan	194.520	NE	195.875
17	Ohio State	194.512	C	194.850
<b>18</b>	<b>Minnesota</b>	<b>194.500</b>	<b>NC</b>	<b>195.675</b>
<b>19</b>	<b>Denver</b>	<b>194.275</b>	<b>NC</b>	<b>195.300</b>
<b>20</b>	<b>Iowa State</b>	<b>194.269</b>	<b>NC</b>	<b>195.225</b>
21	Arizona	194.169	SC	195.250
<b>22</b>	<b>West Virginia</b>	<b>194.119</b>	<b>SE</b>	<b>194.775</b>
23	Arizona State	194.050	SC	194.600
24	Boise State	193.983	W	194.350
25	Iowa	193.931	NC	195.050

**BOLD** - OU's regular season opponents

January 12th to February 9th, 2009 - Weekly Ranking by Total Season Average  
 Starting February 16th, 2009 - Ranking by Regional Qualifying Score

**REGULAR SEASON SENSATIONS**

Oklahoma has won 33 of its last 36 regular-season matchups dating back to Jan. 19, 2007. Prior to OU's defeat against SEC squad's Arkansas and Florida, the Sooners' last regular season loss was to Stanford on March 9, 2007 in Palo Alto, Calif.

**MEET INFO**

A webcast and live scoring of Sunday's meet will be available at Nebraska's official website - [www.Huskers.com](http://www.Huskers.com). Video is only for HuskersNside subscribers. Live scoring will be provided free of charge on the site as well. Following the meet, a complete recap, photos, video highlights and official scores can be found on [www.SoonerSports.com](http://www.SoonerSports.com), the official website of OU women's gymnastics.

**WEEKEND ACTION IN THE BIG 12**

Friday, Feb. 6:  
 Missouri vs. SEMO (6:30 PM)  
 Saturday, Feb. 7:  
 Iowa State at Minnesota (6 PM)  
 Sunday, Feb. 8:  
 OU at Nebraska (2 PM)

**ROOT GARNERS FIRST CONFERENCE HONOR**

University of Oklahoma gymnast Melanie Root was named co-Big 12 Event Specialist of the Week by the conference office on Feb. 3. It's the first conference honor for the Cartersville, Ga., native who tied career highs on vault (9.875) and bars (9.825) against No. 21 Minnesota en route to her first collegiate event title (vault).

Root shared the Big 12 accolade with Iowa State's Ceilia Maccani, who scored a career-best 9.85 on beam and a 9.75 on vault in the Cyclone's loss to Michigan.

On the year, 50 percent of Root's routines (four-of-eight) have gone for a score of 9.8 or better.

**DOMINATING THE BIG 12**

The Sooners have reeled off an 11-1 record versus Big 12 opponents since the start of the 2007 schedule, including a perfect 6-0 mark during regular season action.

OU's last regular season defeat to a conference opponent was Feb. 10, 2006, against Iowa State.

**2009 OKLAHOMA SOONERS**

**Front Row** (Left to Right): Gina Lesko, Haley DeProspero, Megan Ferguson.

**Middle Row** (L to R): Hailey Wagner, Natalie Ratcliff, Ashley Jackson, Kristin Smith, Natasha Kelley, Julie Kramer and Jessica Kinder.

**Back Row** (L to R): Melanie Root, Jackie Flanery, Candace Cindell, Mary Mantle, Sara Stone and Hollie Vise.

**TEAM EVENT TITLES (7)**

Vault (2): @TWU (49.125) | Minnesota (49.200)  
 Bars (2): @TWU (49.200) | Minnesota (49.075)  
 Beam (1): @TWU (49.525)  
 Floor (2): @TWU (49.325) | Minnesota (49.150)

**INDIVIDUAL EVENT TITLES (11)**

*Haley DeProspero* (2)  
 Beam (1): @TWU - 9.925 (Shared with Ferguson and Vise)  
 Floor (1): Minnesota - 9.85 (Shared with Flanery and Jackson)  
*Megan Ferguson* (2)  
 Beam (1): @TWU - 9.925 (Shared with DeProspero and Vise)  
*Jackie Flanery* (1)  
 Floor (1): Minnesota - 9.85 (Shared with DeProspero and Jackson)  
*Ashley Jackson* (3)  
 All-Around (1): @TWU - 39.225  
 Vault (1): @TWU - 9.875 (Shared with Stone)  
 Floor (1): @TWU - 9.95 | Minnesota - 9.85 (Shared with DeProspero and Flanery)  
*Jessica Kinder* (1)  
 Floor (1): Arkansas - 9.9  
*Melanie Root* (1)  
 Vault (1): Minnesota - 9.875  
*Sara Stone* (2)  
 Vault (2): @TWU - 9.875 (Shared with Jackson) | Arkansas - 9.875  
*Hollie Vise* (5)  
 Bars (3): @TWU - 9.875 | Arkansas - 9.875 | Minnesota - 9.875  
 Beam (1): @TWU - 9.925 (Shared with DeProspero and Ferguson)



**TENTATIVE OKLAHOMA LINEUP**

**VAULT**

	<b>SEASON HIGH</b>
1. Jessica Kinder	9.775
2. Natalie Ratcliff	9.825
3. Jackie Flanery	9.85
4. Melanie Root	9.875
5. Ashley Jackson	9.875
6. Sara Stone	9.875

**BAR**

	<b>SEASON HIGH</b>
1. Haley DeProspero	9.8
2. Jessica Kinder	9.8
3. Melanie Root	9.825
4. Ashley Jackson	9.85
5. Megan Ferguson	9.85
6. Hollie Vise	9.875

**BEAM**

	<b>SEASON HIGH</b>
1. Ashley Jackson	9.775
2. Kristin Smith	9.875
3. Natalie Ratcliff	9.875
4. Hollie Vise	9.925
5. Megan Ferguson	9.925
6. Haley DeProspero	9.925

**FLOOR**

	<b>SEASON HIGH</b>
1. Megan Ferguson	9.85
2. Jessica Kinder	9.9
3. Kristin Smith	9.9
4. Jackie Flanery	9.9
5. Haley DeProspero	9.85
6. Ashley Jackson	9.95

**ALL-AROUND**

	<b>SEASON HIGH</b>
1. Ashley Jackson	39.225

**OU IN THE RANKINGS**

<i>Week</i>	<i>Rank</i>
Preseason	10
Jan. 12	9
Jan. 19	5
Jan. 26	7
Feb. 2	7
Feb. 9	-
Feb. 16	-
Feb. 23	-
March 2	-
March 9	-
March 16	-
March 23	-
April 6	-
April 13	-
April 20	-

**STILL ON TOP**

OU's team tally of 197.175 at TWU on Jan. 17 still shares the top mark in the NCAA this season. Only Georgia, winner of the last four NCAA Championships, has equaled the Sooners' score. Oklahoma is one of only four squads to eclipse the 197-point barrier on the year (Georgia - 197.175, UCLA -197.125, Utah-197.050). All three of those squads reached the NCAA Super Six in 2008.

**THREE IN A ROW FOR VISE**

Hollie Vise won her third-straight bars title with a 9.875 against Minnesota on Jan. 30. Also picking up a win on beam against the Golden Gophers (shared with teammate Megan Ferguson), Vise has tallied five event wins during 2009 action. The Dallas, Texas., native is well ahead of her pace last season, when she claimed seven titles throughout the year (four on bars, three on beam).

**AMONG THE REGIONS BEST**

The Sooners (196.094) are one of only two squads in the South Central Region to hold an average above 196.000 through the first month of the 2009 season (Arkansas is the other at 196.320). The two squads hold a clear advantage over the other 10 region foes as Nebraska (195.187) is the only other team with an average above 195.000.

**NOT ACTING LIKE NEWCOMERS**

Of the 28 routines that have been competed by gymnasts making their first collegiate appearance on the respective apparatus in 2009, a remarkable 17 (.607) have gone for a 9.8 or better. Their presence was felt in full force against Minnesota, as six of their seven routines were scored at a 9.8 or greater.

**WINNING AS A TEAM**

The Sooners are the only squad in the current top-10 rankings that have not had a pair of all-arounders in at least two meets of the 2009 season. Oklahoma has relied on large number of event specialists, counting scores from 10 different gymnasts against Minnesota. OU's season opener at Florida was the only time this season that it has had two all-arounders in the lineup (Ashley Jackson and Jessica Kinder).

**FRESHMEN PHENOMS**

OU's Megan Ferguson and Sara Stone have either led the Sooners outright or tied for the team event high on five occasions already this season. Ferguson paced the Sooners on bars against Florida (9.85), tied for the beam crown against TWU (9.925) and shared top beam honors for the Sooners against Minnesota (9.875), while Stone's 9.875 on vault against Arkansas was a team high a week after sharing vault honors with Ashley Jackson against TWU.

**ROAD SWEET ROAD**

Posting an NCAA-best 197.175 in Denton, Texas, on Jan. 17, it appears that the road could be kind to the Sooners again this season. Three of Oklahoma's top four scores last season, including a season-best-tying 196.750 at Arkansas, came on the road for the Sooners. Going further, five of OU's top seven scores in 2008 were outside of Norman.

**CONFERENCE ALL STARS**

Oklahoma is the only Big 12 squad to have a gymnast in the top two spots in the latest Troester rankings on all four events. Ashley Jackson and Sara Stone rank second and third, respectively, in the conference on vault, while Hollie Vise and Megan Ferguson stand one-two on bars. On beam, Natalie Ratcliff is ranked second, while Ashley Jackson holds the second spot in the conference on floor.

**CAREER HIGHS FOR A PAIR**

Along with Melanie Root's career-high 9.875 on vault, Jessica Kinder posted a personal-best 9.8 on bars against the Golden Gophers. Kinder, a fifth-year senior in the Oklahoma program, just started competing on bars in 2009. The Kansas City, Mo., native has posted scores of 9.7 or better all three times on the apparatus.

**2009 ACCOLADES**

**Melanie Root**

Big 12 Event Specialist of the Week (2.3.09)

**Hollie Vise**

Big 12 Event Specialist of the Week (1.20.09)

**2009 PROMOTIONS**

**Jan. 26: Kids Night**

- First 250 kids to the pre-meet party get a kids-sized OU Gymnastics T-shirt (sizes are first-come, first-served)
- One lucky fan will win a Nintendo Wii
- Free 2009 schedule posters for all fans
- Pre-meet party for kids from 5:00-5:45 in the Courtside Club at Lloyd Noble Center

**Jan. 30: Beauty and the Beast**

- First 250 fans get a free Beauty and the Beast stadium cup with a free soda
- Sign up for the chance to win prizes including airline tickets, an iPod and gift certificates
- The Sooners will sign autographs after the meet

**Feb. 20: Flip for the Cure II**

- (promoting Women's Heart Disease Awareness)
- The Sooners will sign autographs after the meet
  - Giveaways: TBA

**March 6: Senior Night**

- 50 Cent Hot Dog and Cokes Night
- First 250 fans get OU light-up necklaces
- Senior Night ceremony and autographs after the meet

**LAST TIME IN LINCOLN**

Senior Brittney Koncak-Schumann claimed her second all-around title of the young season, and the No. 8 OU women's gymnastics team upset sixth-ranked Nebraska, 195.075-195.050, on Feb. 2, 2007, in the Bob Devaney Sports Center.

The Sooners had not defeated their Big 12 conference rivals since the 2004 Big 12 Championships.

"It's amazing," Koncak-Schumann said after the meet. "It's the best feeling to know how hard we worked and to really come together as a team. It was a true team effort and I'm so proud."

OU trailed by 0.4 after two rotations, but cut the Nebraska lead to 0.1 on the floor exercise. The Sooners grabbed the lead on their last event, balance beam, with a 48.575 total, while the Huskers turned in their lowest event score of the night with a 48.450 on floor.

**HOW THE TEAMS STACK UP**

The Sooners lead the Big 12 on all four events, while Nebraska ranks third on vault, fourth on bars, third on beam and second on floor. If it should come down to the final event - OU has posted a final-event tally of 49.225 on beam in road competitions, while Nebraska scored a 49.175 on floor in their only home meet.

**PROTECTING THE HOUSE**

The Sooners are 14-1 in their last 15 regular season home meets. Before Oklahoma's loss to Arkansas, its last home defeat before the postseason came at the hands of an Iowa State team that was coached by K.J. Kindler - OU's current head coach.

**NATALIE'S NIGHT**

While many Sooners had trouble on beam against the Razorbacks, the same cannot be said of Natalie Ratcliff. The sophomore posted a 9.825 on the apparatus in just her second collegiate beam routine - a week after posting a 9.875 on the event in her beam debut at TWU. Ratcliff also posted a career-high 9.825 on vault for the Sooners against Arkansas.

**RAISING THE BAR**

OU junior Hollie Vise unveiled a double-front dismount on bars for the first time in collegiate competition against Arkansas. The 2008 Big 12 bars champion posted an event-winning tally of 9.875 against the Razorbacks, her second straight event win on the apparatus.

**BUST OUT THE BROOMS**

OU swept all individual and event titles against TWU, marking the first time this season that it had won every crown of the dual meet. The Sooners swept all four team event titles seven times a year ago.

**CAREER BESTS APLENTY**

Nine Oklahoma gymnasts either set or tied a total of 12 personal bests against TWU on Jan. 17. Below is a run-down from OU's spectacular night:

**Haley DeProspero** (1): Beam - 9.925

**Megan Ferguson** (3): Bars - 9.85, Beam - 9.925\*, Floor - 9.775\*

**Jackie Flanery** (1): Floor - 9.9

**Ashley Jackson** (1): Floor - 9.95\*

**Natalie Ratcliff** (1): Beam - 9.875\*

**Melanie Root** (1): Bars - 9.825\*

**Kristin Smith** (1): Floor - 9.9\*

**Sara Stone** (2): Vault - 9.875\*, Floor - 9.775\*

**Hollie Vise** (1): Beam - 9.925\*

\* - Established new career best



## BARS STARS

The Sooner' bars lineup at Florida included three gymnasts making their collegiate debut on the apparatus (Megan Ferguson, Jessica Kinder and Melanie Root). The trio went three-for-three including a second-place finish by Ferguson, who scored a 9.85 in her first collegiate routine. Kinder hit a 9.725, while Root finished with a 9.625.

## NATASHA KELLEY TO REDSHIRT

OU freshman Natasha Kelley will redshirt the 2009 season after an achilles injury sustained during the fall training period. The Katy, Texas, native is Oklahoma's most heralded recruit since NCAA Champion Kelly Garrison after spending 2004-2008 as a member of the US Elite National Team. The '05 USA Elite Junior National champion (all-around, beam, floor) was also the silver medalist at the 2006 World Championships and '07 American Cup.

## MEET THE NEWCOMERS

OU gymnastics fans also will have their first chance to see OU's freshman class of Megan Ferguson, Natasha Kelley, Sara Stone and Hailey Wagner in collegiate action at the Lloyd Noble Center in 2009. While Kelley is redshirting the year after an injury during the fall, Ferguson and Stone are inked into the tentative starting lineup against Minnesota.

Baylor transfer Julie Kramer also joined the Sooners over the summer and will provide depth to the vault lineup.

OU's 2008-09 recruiting class of Ferguson, Kelley, Stone and Wagner was the sixth-best group in the country, according to a recent CollegeGymFans.com Top-10 Women's Recruiting Classes poll. The Sooners ranked behind No. 1 UCLA and '08 NCAA Championships Super Six squads Georgia (second), Alabama (third), Florida (fourth) and Stanford (fifth). Oklahoma was the only squad from the Big 12 Conference and South Central Region named to the list.

## THE EXPERIENCE FACTOR

The Sooners welcome back 18 routines from last season's 2008 NCAA Championships. Below is an event-by-event breakdown of returners for the 2009 year that competed in Athens, Ga.

Vault (5): Flanery, Kinder, Jackson, DeProspero, Mantle

Bars (4): Mantle, Jackson, DeProspero, Vise

Beam (4): Kinder, Jackson, Vise, DeProspero

Floor (5): Smith, Kinder, DeProspero, Jackson, Flanery

## BOWLING INTO THE NEW YEAR

Although the gymnastics schedule was set months before the bowl lineups were announced, the OU gymnastics squad opened up its season slate with Oklahoma's football bowl opponent for the second straight year. The Sooners squared off with the Gator gymnastics squad on Jan. 9, less than 24 hours after meeting Florida in the BCS National Championship game. Oklahoma and West Virginia met in the second session of the Cancun Classic in their season opener a year ago, a day after OU's football squad faced the Mountaineers in the Fiesta Bowl.

## SOONERS TABBED 10TH IN PRESEASON POLL

The reigning Big 12 Champion Oklahoma women's gymnastics team was ranked 10th in the preseason GymInfo Coaches' Poll, the highest ranking of any conference squad. Oklahoma's 525 points in the preseason poll was one less than ninth-ranked Oregon State. Georgia, winner of the last four national titles, opens the 2009 season as the nation's top team. The Gym Dogs earned 26 of a possible 33 first-place votes, easily distancing themselves from No. 2 Utah (two first-place votes). Florida, UCLA (four first-place votes) and Stanford round out the top five. The Sooners' regular season schedule features events against eight teams ranked in the preseason top-25 poll.

## OKLAHOMA INKS THREE TO 2009 CLASS

Head Coach K.J. Kindler and the Oklahoma women's gymnastics squad announced the signing of three gymnasts to National Letters of Intent on Nov. 12, the first day of the early signing period. Oklahoma native Bethany Neubauer (Edmond, Okla.), Kayla Nowak (Algonquin, Ill.) and Brie Olson (St. Cloud, Minn.) will join the Sooners next fall.

## MINNESOTA RECAP

The No. 7 Oklahoma women's gymnastics squad defeated 21st-ranked Minnesota 196.500-195.675 on Jan. 30, in front of 1,540 fans at the Lloyd Noble Center in OU's "Beauty and the Beast" spectacular. The Sooners shared the floor with the Oklahoma wrestling squad, who rolled over N.C. State by a final score of 38-6.

OU won three events on the night, as Oklahoma gymnasts also took home individual titles on vault (Melanie Root - 9.875), bars (Hollie Vise - 9.875) and floor (Jackie Flanery, Haley DeProspero and Ashley Jackson - 9.85 for all three).

"We were much more consistent with our landings throughout the night and beam was much better for the most part than our last time out," said OU head coach K.J. Kindler. "I thought we also brought a lot more energy into the event and sustained that throughout the night. It was a great atmosphere, with support from both the wrestling and gymnastics fans, as the event was a big success for both Oklahoma squads."

OU burst out of the gates with a season-high 49.200 on vault as the final five Oklahoma gymnasts posted scores of 9.8 or greater.

## ARKANSAS RECAP

The seventh-ranked Oklahoma women's gymnastics squad (1-2) dropped a 195.625-196.900 decision in its home opener to No. 8 Arkansas (4-1) at the Lloyd Noble Center on Monday night. The Sooners were in it through two rotations, but beam proved the difference maker as the Sooners scored a 48.325 on the apparatus, while the Razorbacks posted a 49.275 en route to a program-best team tally.

It was OU's first regular season dual loss in Norman since Feb. 10, 2006, against Iowa State - a span of 12 consecutive match ups. The defeat was the first to the Razorbacks in program history, as the Sooners entered tonight's dual meet with a 4-0 record against Arkansas - including two wins in 2008.

"We were right in it until we went to beam," said OU head coach K.J. Kindler. "Unfortunately, beam was a polar opposite from our last time out against TWU. We counted far too many wobbles and it ended up being the difference tonight. Give credit to Arkansas, they performed very well tonight."

**TWU RECAP**

The ninth-ranked Oklahoma women's gymnastics squad (1-1) posted the highest score in the NCAA this season en route to a 197.175-189.600 victory against Texas Woman's University (0-1) on Jan. 17. The Sooners claimed every team and individual event title of the dual meet in front of a capacity crowd of 1,107 inside Kitty Magee Arena on the TWU campus.

Posting their best team score since Jan. 24, 2004 (197.300), the Sooners claimed the highest score in the NCAA in 2009. Entering the competition with the top score in the NCAA was Georgia (winner of the last four national titles) with a mark of 196.85.

With the victory, Oklahoma has won 32 of its last 34 regular-season matchups dating back to Jan. 19, 2007.

"It's a real confidence builder as we continue our season," said head coach K.J. Kindler. "In all honesty, I saw ten times as much energy, confidence and enthusiasm as we showed at Florida. It started out with a bang with a great bars set. I thought we did a much better job with our dismounts and stuck landings and it's always nice to end with one of those beam nights that you'll never forget."

Oklahoma was without the services of Haley DeProspero on vault and floor and senior all-arounder Jessica Kinder on all four events, yet still posted all four event scores of 49.125 or better.

**FLORIDA RECAP**

The No. 10 University of Oklahoma women's gymnastics squad dropped a season-opening dual meet to the third-ranked Florida Gators by a score of 196.500-195.075 in front of a Stephen O'Connell Center crowd of 4,856 in Gainesville, Fla., on Jan. 9.

"I thought we came out a little flat overall," said head coach K.J. Kindler. "In front of a great Florida crowd, I was very proud of some of our newcomers including our bars lineup which included three girls making their career debuts and all hit. We had some uncharacteristic falls from some of our veterans including Hollie Vise and Jackie Flanery, but I'm sure we can learn from this experience and improve as the season progresses."

"We also had a couple of late fill-in's including Sara Stone on floor for Haley (DeProspero), who I thought performed well considering the last-second switch. Also, Jessica Kinder went four-for-four in her first all-around performance and must be commended."

As a whole, Oklahoma couldn't match its regular-season success against squads from the Southeastern Conference from a year ago, when the Sooners posted season highs in wins against both SEC squad's they faced before the postseason (196.75 against Auburn - March 7 and Arkansas - March 15).

OU senior Ashley Jackson finished third in the all-around (39.125), behind Florida All-American's Melanie Sinclair (39.425) and Corey Hartung (39.375).

Other Sooner bright spots included runner-up finishes on three of the four events - (Jackson - 9.825 on vault, Megan Ferguson - 9.85 on bars and Haley DeProspero - 9.875 on beam).

**KIARA REDMOND NAMED TEAM MANAGER**

Former OU All-American Kiara Redmond has re-joined the Oklahoma women's gymnastics squad as team manager for the 2008-09 season. The appointment was announced Aug. 8 by head coach K.J. Kindler. Redmond, one of the most decorated gymnasts in program history, completed her eligibility last May after earning All-America honors on vault, beam, floor and in the all-around at the 2008 NCAA Championships in Athens, Ga.

**SHOWING OFF THEIR SMARTS**

For the second consecutive season, five members of the Oklahoma women's gymnastics team earned National Association of Collegiate Gymnastics Coaches All-American Scholar Athlete Awards, the NACGC announced Aug. 6.

Haley DeProspero, Caitlin Hinkis, Jessica Kinder, Gina Lesko and Mary Mantle garnered Oklahoma's accolades with Hinkis and Kinder both earning perfect 4.0 GPA's for the academic year. The pair was the only gymnasts in the Big 12 to notch 4.0's during both semesters. OU recorded a team GPA of 3.25 for the year, up from last season's 3.20.

**WISE AND COMPANY NAMED TO USAG HALL OF FAME**

University of Oklahoma gymnast Hollie Vise was named to the 2008 class of inductees for the USA Gymnastics Hall of Fame as part of the 2003 U.S. Women's World Championships Team, in a ceremony on June 22nd in Philadelphia, Pa., in conjunction with the U.S. Olympic Trials.

The 2003 World Champion on bars, Vise was a member of the '03 squad that claimed the USA's first world team title.

An International Elite gymnast since the age of 11, Vise was a two-time National Champion on bars and balance beam and won a silver medal in the all-around at the same competition on three occasions.

A member of the U.S. National Team for six years, the Dallas, Texas, native won two bronze medals at the 2001 Goodwill Games in Australia.

**A LOOK BACK AT LAST YEAR**

Last season proved to be a storybook year for OU women's gymnastics as the team cemented itself as one of the program's all-time best. Etching its name in the record books on multiple occasions, the Sooners clinched their first Big 12 title since 2004 in dramatic come-from-behind fashion and placed eighth at the NCAA Championships - tying the '07 squad for the best finish in program history at the season-ending event. OU made its fifth-straight NCAA Championships appearance, adding to its program-record streak. Prior to the current five consecutive showings, the Sooners hadn't been in the field in back-to-back seasons in the 27-year history of the program.

The Sooners claimed a conference-leading nine spots on the 2008 Gymnastics All-Big 12 Team. The Big 12 Conference awarded the top four Big 12 gymnasts with the highest regional qualifying score (RQS) in each event, excluding the all-around. Leading the way for OU was Kiara Redmond who earned a spot on vault, uneven bars, beam and floor exercise. The Los Angeles, Calif., native was the only Big 12 gymnast to garner four accolades.

Vise was also a multiple winner, clinching a spot on both uneven bars and beam. Leading the Big 12 on beam (9.895), DeProspero was named to the beam team while Jackie Flanery and Ashley Jackson were honored for their efforts on floor.

**SEASON HIGHS**

NAME	VAULT	BARS	BEAM	FLOOR	All-AROUND
Candace Cindell	-	-	-	-	-
Haley DeProspero	-	9.8	9.925	9.85	-
Megan Ferguson	-	9.85	9.925	9.85	-
Jackie Flanery	9.85	-	-	9.9	-
Ashley Jackson	9.875	9.85	9.775	9.95	39.225
Natasha Kelley	-	-	-	-	-
Jessica Kinder	9.775	9.8	9.725	9.9	39.175
Julie Kramer	-	-	-	-	-
Gina Lesko	-	-	-	-	-
Mary Mantle	9.825	9.825	-	9.8	-
Natalie Ratcliff	9.825	-	9.875	-	-
Melanie Root	9.875	9.825	-	-	-
Kristin Smith	-	-	9.875	9.9	-
Sara Stone	9.875	-	-	9.775	-
Hollie Vise	-	9.875	9.925	-	-
Hailey Wagner	-	-	-	-	-

**CAREER HIGHS**

VAULT	BARS	BEAM	FLOOR	All-AROUND
-	-	-	-	-
9.925	9.9	9.925	9.9	39.425
-	9.85	9.925	9.85	-
9.85	9.825	-	9.9	-
9.9	9.85	9.9	9.95	39.275
-	-	-	-	-
9.825	9.8	9.85	9.9	39.175
-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-
9.9	9.825	-	9.8	-
9.825	-	9.875	-	-
9.875	9.825	-	9.75	-
-	-	9.925	9.9	-
9.875	-	-	9.775	-
-	9.9	9.925	-	-
-	-	-	-	-

**HALEY DEPROSPERO POSTED ONE OF THREE 9.925s ON BEAM FROM SOONER GYMNASTS AGAINST TWU AS OU POSTED A TEAM TALLY OF 49.525 ON THE APPARATUS - SHARING THE HIGHEST SCORE BY ANY SQUAD IN THE COUNTRY ON ANY EVENT THIS SEASON.**

**OU TEAM RECORDS**

Event	Score	Date Set
Total.....	197.725	March 14, 2003
Vault.....	49.575	March 02, 2002
Bars.....	49.550	March 14, 2003
Beam.....	49.675	March 14, 2003

**2009 SEASON BESTS (INDIVIDUAL)**

All-Around: 39.225 - Ashley Jackson (1/17)  
 Vault: 9.875 - Sara Stone (1/26)  
 Bars: 9.875 - Hollie Vise (1/30)  
 Beam: 9.925 - Haley DeProspero, Megan Ferguson and Hollie Vise (1/17)  
 Floor: 9.95 - Ashley Jackson (1/17)

**OU INDIVIDUAL RECORDS**

Event	Score	Gymnast, Date Set
All-Around.....	39.700	Kasie Tamayo, 2004
Vault.....	10.0	Kiara Redmond, 2008 (Also set three other times)
Bars.....	10.0	Erin LaBarr, 2005   Allison Landis, 2003
Beam.....	10.0	Kasie Tamayo, 2002   Kelly Garrison, 1988
Floor.....	10.0	Patricia Aoki, 2003

**2009 SEASON BESTS (TEAM)**

Team Total: 197.175 (TWU - 1/17)  
 Vault: 49.200 (Minnesota - 1/30)  
 Bars: 49.200 (TWU - 1/17)  
 Beam: 49.525 (TWU - 1/17)  
 Floor: 49.325 (TWU - 1/17)



**BOOMER SOONER**

2009 SCORING BREAKDOWN

DATE	MEET	TEAM	TEAM SCORE	VAULT	BARS	BEAM	FLOOR
1/9	@Florida	OU	195.075	48.925	48.725	48.925	48.500
		UF	196.500	49.125	48.950	49.250	49.175
1/17	@Texas Woman's	OU	<b>197.175</b>	<b>49.125</b>	<b>49.200</b>	<b>49.525</b>	<b>49.325</b>
		TWU	189.600	48.450	48.050	44.850	48.250
1/26	ARKANSAS	OU	195.625	49.075	49.125	48.325	49.100
		UA	196.900	49.125	49.175	49.275	49.325
1/30	MINNESOTA	OU	196.500	<b>49.200</b>	49.075	49.075	49.150
		UM	<b>195.675</b>	<b>48.575</b>	<b>48.925</b>	<b>49.275</b>	<b>48.900</b>
2/8	@Nebraska	OU NU					
2/14	@Denver	OU DU					
2/20	BROWN/MISSOURI/WEST VIRGINIA	OU BU MU WVU					
2/27	@Iowa State	OU ISU					
3/6	TWU/ILLINOIS STATE	OU TWU ISU					
3/13	@Alabama	OU UA UNC					
3/21	Big 12 Championships	OU ISU NU MU					
4/4	NCAA Regional Championships	TBA					
4/17-19	NCAA Championships	TBA					

## CANDACE CINDELL

Date	Event	Vault	Bars	Beam	Floor	AA
1.09	@Florida	-	-	-	-	-
1.17	@TWU	-	-	-	-	-
1.26	ARKANSAS	-	-	-	-	-
1.30	MINNESOTA	-	-	-	-	-
2.08	@Nebraska	-	-	-	-	-
2.14	@Denver	-	-	-	-	-
2.20	BROWN/MU/W. VA	-	-	-	-	-
2.27	@Iowa State	-	-	-	-	-
3.06	TWU/ILLINOIS STATE	-	-	-	-	-
3.13	@Alabama	-	-	-	-	-
3.21	Big 12 Championship	-	-	-	-	-
3.22	@Minnesota	-	-	-	-	-
4.04	NCAA Regional	-	-	-	-	-
4.17	NCAA Championship	-	-	-	-	-

## HALEY DEPROSPERO

Date	Event	Vault	Bars	Beam	Floor	AA
1.09	@Florida	-	9.7	9.85	-	-
1.17	@TWU	-	9.8	9.925	-	-
1.26	ARKANSAS	-	9.8	9.7	9.75	-
1.30	MINNESOTA	-	9.75	9.825	9.85	-
2.08	@Nebraska	-	-	-	-	-
2.14	@Denver	-	-	-	-	-
2.20	BROWN/MU/W. VA	-	-	-	-	-
2.27	@Iowa State	-	-	-	-	-
3.06	TWU/ILLINOIS STATE	-	-	-	-	-
3.13	@Alabama	-	-	-	-	-
3.21	Big 12 Championship	-	-	-	-	-
3.22	@Minnesota	-	-	-	-	-
4.04	NCAA Regional	-	-	-	-	-
4.17	NCAA Championship	-	-	-	-	-

## MEGAN FERGUSON

Date	Event	Vault	Bars	Beam	Floor	AA
1.09	@Florida	-	9.85	9.775	9.45	-
1.17	@TWU	-	9.85	9.925	9.775	-
1.26	ARKANSAS	-	9.85	9.325	9.85	-
1.30	MINNESOTA	-	9.825	9.875	9.55	-
2.08	@Nebraska	-	-	-	-	-
2.14	@Denver	-	-	-	-	-
2.20	BROWN/MU/W. VA	-	-	-	-	-
2.27	@Iowa State	-	-	-	-	-
3.06	TWU/ILLINOIS STATE	-	-	-	-	-
3.13	@Alabama	-	-	-	-	-
3.21	Big 12 Championship	-	-	-	-	-
3.22	@Minnesota	-	-	-	-	-
4.04	NCAA Regional	-	-	-	-	-
4.17	NCAA Championship	-	-	-	-	-

## JACKIE FLANERY

Date	Event	Vault	Bars	Beam	Floor	AA
1.09	@Florida	9.775	-	-	9.3	-
1.17	@TWU	9.8	-	-	9.9	-
1.26	ARKANSAS	9.8	-	-	9.85	-
1.30	MINNESOTA	9.85	-	-	9.85	-
2.08	@Nebraska	-	-	-	-	-
2.14	@Denver	-	-	-	-	-
2.20	BROWN/MU/W. VA	-	-	-	-	-
2.27	@Iowa State	-	-	-	-	-
3.06	TWU/ILLINOIS STATE	-	-	-	-	-
3.13	@Alabama	-	-	-	-	-
3.21	Big 12 Championship	-	-	-	-	-
3.22	@Minnesota	-	-	-	-	-
4.04	NCAA Regional	-	-	-	-	-
4.17	NCAA Championship	-	-	-	-	-

## ASHLEY JACKSON

Date	Event	Vault	Bars	Beam	Floor	AA	
1.09	@Florida	9.825	9.7	9.775	9.825	39.125	
1.17	@TWU	9.875	9.85	9.55	9.95	39.225	
1.26	ARKANSAS	DID NOT COMPETE (BACK STRAIN)					
1.30	MINNESOTA	9.85	9.7	-	9.85	-	
2.08	@Nebraska	-	-	-	-	-	
2.14	@Denver	-	-	-	-	-	
2.20	BROWN/MU/W. VA	-	-	-	-	-	
2.27	@Iowa State	-	-	-	-	-	
3.06	TWU/ILLINOIS STATE	-	-	-	-	-	
3.13	@Alabama	-	-	-	-	-	
3.21	Big 12 Championship	-	-	-	-	-	
3.22	@Minnesota	-	-	-	-	-	
4.04	NCAA Regional	-	-	-	-	-	
4.17	NCAA Championship	-	-	-	-	-	

## NATASHA KELLEY

Date	Event	Vault	Bars	Beam	Floor	AA
1.09	@Florida	-	-	-	-	-
1.17	@TWU	-	-	-	-	-
1.26	ARKANSAS	-	-	-	-	-
1.30	MINNESOTA	-	-	-	-	-
2.08	@Nebraska	-	-	-	-	-
2.14	@Denver	-	-	-	-	-
2.20	BROWN/MU/W. VA	-	-	-	-	-
2.27	@Iowa State	-	-	-	-	-
3.06	TWU/ILLINOIS STATE	-	-	-	-	-
3.13	@Alabama	-	-	-	-	-
3.21	Big 12 Championship	-	-	-	-	-
3.22	@Minnesota	-	-	-	-	-
4.04	NCAA Regional	-	-	-	-	-
4.17	NCAA Championship	-	-	-	-	-

**JESSICA KINDER**

Date	Event	Vault	Bars	Beam	Floor	AA
1.09	@Florida	9.725	9.725	9.725	9.7	38.875
1.17	@TWU	DID NOT COMPETE (CALF STRAIN)				
1.26	ARKANSAS	9.775	9.775	9.725	9.9	39.175
1.30	MINNESOTA	9.725	9.8	9.7	9.775	39.000
2.08	@Nebraska	-	-	-	-	-
2.14	@Denver	-	-	-	-	-
2.20	BROWN/MU/W. VA	-	-	-	-	-
2.27	@Iowa State	-	-	-	-	-
3.06	TWU/ILLINOIS STATE	-	-	-	-	-
3.13	@Alabama	-	-	-	-	-
3.21	Big 12 Championship	-	-	-	-	-
3.22	@Minnesota	-	-	-	-	-
4.04	NCAA Regional	-	-	-	-	-
4.17	NCAA Championship	-	-	-	-	-

**GINA LESKO**

Date	Event	Vault	Bars	Beam	Floor	AA
1.09	@Florida	-	-	-	-	-
1.17	@TWU	-	-	-	-	-
1.26	ARKANSAS	-	-	-	-	-
1.30	MINNESOTA	-	-	-	-	-
2.08	@Nebraska	-	-	-	-	-
2.14	@Denver	-	-	-	-	-
2.20	BROWN/MU/W. VA	-	-	-	-	-
2.27	@Iowa State	-	-	-	-	-
3.06	TWU/ILLINOIS STATE	-	-	-	-	-
3.13	@Alabama	-	-	-	-	-
3.21	Big 12 Championship	-	-	-	-	-
3.22	@Minnesota	-	-	-	-	-
4.04	NCAA Regional	-	-	-	-	-
4.17	NCAA Championship	-	-	-	-	-

**MARY MANTLE**

Date	Event	Vault	Bars	Beam	Floor	AA
1.09	@Florida	9.725	-	-	-	-
1.17	@TWU	9.825	9.75	-	9.8	-
1.26	ARKANSAS	9.8	9.825	-	9.75	-
1.30	MINNESOTA	-	-	-	-	-
2.08	@Nebraska	-	-	-	-	-
2.14	@Denver	-	-	-	-	-
2.20	BROWN/MU/W. VA	-	-	-	-	-
2.27	@Iowa State	-	-	-	-	-
3.06	TWU/ILLINOIS STATE	-	-	-	-	-
3.13	@Alabama	-	-	-	-	-
3.21	Big 12 Championship	-	-	-	-	-
3.22	@Minnesota	-	-	-	-	-
4.04	NCAA Regional	-	-	-	-	-
4.17	NCAA Championship	-	-	-	-	-

**NATALIE RATCLIFF**

Date	Event	Vault	Bars	Beam	Floor	AA
1.09	@Florida	-	-	-	-	-
1.17	@TWU	9.75	-	9.875	-	-
1.26	ARKANSAS	9.825	-	9.825	-	-
1.30	MINNESOTA	9.825	-	9.8	-	-
2.08	@Nebraska	-	-	-	-	-
2.14	@Denver	-	-	-	-	-
2.20	BROWN/MU/W. VA	-	-	-	-	-
2.27	@Iowa State	-	-	-	-	-
3.06	TWU/ILLINOIS STATE	-	-	-	-	-
3.13	@Alabama	-	-	-	-	-
3.21	Big 12 Championship	-	-	-	-	-
3.22	@Minnesota	-	-	-	-	-
4.04	NCAA Regional	-	-	-	-	-
4.17	NCAA Championship	-	-	-	-	-

**MELANIE ROOT**

Date	Event	Vault	Bars	Beam	Floor	AA
1.09	@Florida	9.8	9.625	-	-	-
1.17	@TWU	9.725	9.825	-	-	-
1.26	ARKANSAS	9.775	9.75	-	-	-
1.30	MINNESOTA	9.875	9.825	-	-	-
2.08	@Nebraska	-	-	-	-	-
2.14	@Denver	-	-	-	-	-
2.20	BROWN/MU/W. VA	-	-	-	-	-
2.27	@Iowa State	-	-	-	-	-
3.06	TWU/ILLINOIS STATE	-	-	-	-	-
3.13	@Alabama	-	-	-	-	-
3.21	Big 12 Championship	-	-	-	-	-
3.22	@Minnesota	-	-	-	-	-
4.04	NCAA Regional	-	-	-	-	-
4.17	NCAA Championship	-	-	-	-	-

**KRISTIN SMITH**

Date	Event	Vault	Bars	Beam	Floor	AA
1.09	@Florida	-	-	9.775	9.825	-
1.17	@TWU	-	-	9.875	9.9	-
1.26	ARKANSAS	-	-	9.425	9.725	-
1.30	MINNESOTA	-	-	9.25	9.825	-
2.08	@Nebraska	-	-	-	-	-
2.14	@Denver	-	-	-	-	-
2.20	BROWN/MU/W. VA	-	-	-	-	-
2.27	@Iowa State	-	-	-	-	-
3.06	TWU/ILLINOIS STATE	-	-	-	-	-
3.13	@Alabama	-	-	-	-	-
3.21	Big 12 Championship	-	-	-	-	-
3.22	@Minnesota	-	-	-	-	-
4.04	NCAA Regional	-	-	-	-	-
4.17	NCAA Championship	-	-	-	-	-

## SARA STONE

Date	Event	Vault	Bars	Beam	Floor	AA
1.09	@Florida	9.8	-	-	9.7	-
1.17	@TWU	9.875	-	-	9.775	-
1.26	ARKANSAS	9.875	-	-	-	-
1.30	MINNESOTA	9.8	-	-	-	-
2.08	@Nebraska	-	-	-	-	-
2.14	@Denver	-	-	-	-	-
2.20	BROWN/MU/W. VA	-	-	-	-	-
2.27	@Iowa State	-	-	-	-	-
3.06	TWU/ILLINOIS STATE	-	-	-	-	-
3.13	@Alabama	-	-	-	-	-
3.21	Big 12 Championship	-	-	-	-	-
3.22	@Minnesota	-	-	-	-	-
4.04	NCAA Regional	-	-	-	-	-
4.17	NCAA Championship	-	-	-	-	-

## HOLLIE VISE

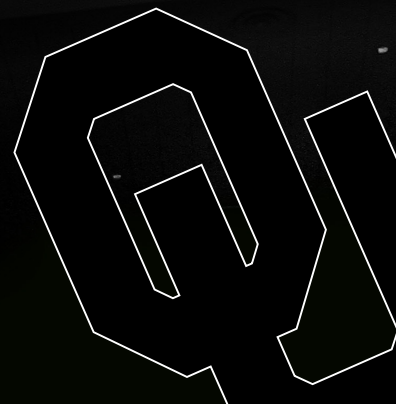
Date	Event	Vault	Bars	Beam	Floor	AA
1.09	@Florida	-	9.75	9.25	-	-
1.17	@TWU	-	9.875	9.925	-	-
1.26	ARKANSAS	-	9.875	9.65	-	-
1.30	MINNESOTA	-	9.875	9.875	-	-
2.08	@Nebraska	-	-	-	-	-
2.14	@Denver	-	-	-	-	-
2.20	BROWN/MU/W. VA	-	-	-	-	-
2.27	@Iowa State	-	-	-	-	-
3.06	TWU/ILLINOIS STATE	-	-	-	-	-
3.13	@Alabama	-	-	-	-	-
3.21	Big 12 Championship	-	-	-	-	-
3.22	@Minnesota	-	-	-	-	-
4.04	NCAA Regional	-	-	-	-	-
4.17	NCAA Championship	-	-	-	-	-

## HAILEY WAGNER

Date	Event	Vault	Bars	Beam	Floor	AA
1.09	@Florida	-	-	-	-	-
1.17	@TWU	-	-	-	-	-
1.26	ARKANSAS	-	-	-	-	-
1.30	MINNESOTA	-	-	-	-	-
2.08	@Nebraska	-	-	-	-	-
2.14	@Denver	-	-	-	-	-
2.20	BROWN/MU/W. VA	-	-	-	-	-
2.27	@Iowa State	-	-	-	-	-
3.06	TWU/ILLINOIS STATE	-	-	-	-	-
3.13	@Alabama	-	-	-	-	-
3.21	Big 12 Championship	-	-	-	-	-
3.22	@Minnesota	-	-	-	-	-
4.04	NCAA Regional	-	-	-	-	-
4.17	NCAA Championship	-	-	-	-	-

## MELANIE ROOT

Sophomore • Cartersville, Ga. • Reigning co-Big 12 Event Specialist of the Week



**VAULT**

While Oklahoma led the NCAA South Central Region last season with a vault regional qualifying score (RQS) of 49.180, Kindler and the Sooners expect that average to rise in 2009. Depth will prove the biggest factor for improved scores on the apparatus this season as OU lost only one vaulter to graduation (Kiara Redmond). The combination of several veteran vaulters and a talented crop of newcomers pushes the Sooner tally to a minimum of 12 vaulters competing with a 10.0 start value.

The boost in numbers gives the staff an opportunity to choose the most dynamic vaults for scoring and consistency purposes, allowing Kindler the ability to test fresh faces on the apparatus as well as challenge potential all-arounders to earn their starting spot.

Top returners on vault include Ashley Jackson, Haley DeProspero, Jessica Kinder, Jackie Flanery, and Mary Mantle, while the group of newcomers includes Sara Stone. Other veterans on the scene include Melanie Root and Kristin Smith, who are both competing yurchenko fulls. Root saw action on vault in five meets last season and is looking for a more consistent position in the lineup this spring. Hailey Wagner, Julie Kramer and Natalie Ratcliff have shown great improvements in the gym and will have the opportunity to contribute when called upon. Kramer, a transfer from Baylor University, was a power tumbler and trampolinist and has made the transition to collegiate gymnastics.

“Our goals on vault are to improve both our scoring potential and ‘sticking’ of our vaults,” said Kindler. “We expect our ranking to rise on this event due to a combination of increased potential and added depth over last season.”

**BARS**

New faces will be seen on this event after the graduation of three strong contributors last season. The Sooners will need to replace Caitlin Hinkis, Stephanie LoPiccolo and Kiara Redmond, who all completed their eligibility in 2008.

The trio will be replaced by sophomore Melanie Root and freshman Megan Ferguson.

Root has redesigned her routine to highlight a sky-high tkatchev and a textbook double-front dismount.

Ferguson, a surprise on this event, has learned numerous skills (jaeger and full-in dismount) and combinations (giant full to overshoot handstand) and has solidified her position in the lineup.

Veterans to watch for include World Champion and 2008 Big 12 event champion Hollie Vise, Haley DeProspero, Jackie Flanery, Ashley Jackson, Jessica Kinder and Mary Mantle.

“Our goal on bars is simple...hit, hit, hit,” said Kindler. “In preseason workouts, we saw a huge increase in our hit percentage. The athletes are also performing more difficult dismounts which was one of our training goals.”

**BEAM**

Coach Kindler preached consistency on beam heading into the offseason and the veterans listened, as the group proved to be very seasoned on this event throughout the training period.

Last season, Haley DeProspero sealed a “perfect” record on balance beam, sticking 14-of-14 routines. Teammate Hollie Vise was not far behind, missing just one routine the entire season.

Jessica Kinder also proved to be a key member of the Sooner beam lineup last year, stepping in to replace the injured Ashley Jackson at Missouri and hitting every routine the remainder of the season.

These three athletes provide a solid foundation on the apparatus.

Expect freshmen Megan Ferguson to be slotted in as an immediate contributor in 2009. Ferguson, crowned the Junior Olympic National Champion on beam in 2006 and 2007, will truly mesmerize with her unique routine and difficult tumbling.

Jackson has increased her difficulty and ends her routine with an impressive double tuck salto while Smith added a three-part flight series to her routine, while continuing to make an impact with her exceptional dance.

Depth will also be provided by returnees Candace Cindell, Jackie Flanery, Natalie Ratcliff, Melanie Root, and freshman Sara Stone.

“I felt that last season a slight misstep here and there kept us from being a really good beam squad,” said Kindler. “During our training, we have preached a high hitting percentage while working on increased difficulty in our routines.”

**FLOOR**

One of the strongest events for the Sooners a year ago, floor exercise appears to be another key asset for Oklahoma in 2009 after losing only Kiara Redmond to graduation from last season’s lineup.

Returning crowd favorites include senior Ashley Jackson and junior Jackie Flanery, who will once again thrill the crowd with their showboating choreography and quick and powerful tumbling. Flanery, ranked second among all returning Big 12 gymnasts on the apparatus with a season RQS of 9.875, has upgraded her passes from last season in search of a Big 12 title on this event.

Other returners include Jessica Kinder, Haley DeProspero and Kristin Smith. All three are expected to be staples in the lineup for OU.

Smith, noted for her long lines and unique dancing abilities, will be solid, while DeProspero and Kinder plan to end their routines with double salto dismounts - tucked and piked, respectively, which will set them apart from the competition.

Other contributors will include Sara Stone, Megan Ferguson, Mary Mantle and Melanie Root.

“We have worked tirelessly on increasing our skill level on this event over the training period,” said Kindler. “Heading into the season, we feel as though we can be a top-five team in the country on floor.”

**SEASON EVENT OUTLOOK**

# K.J. KINDLER

HEAD COACH | THIRD SEASON  
2008 BIG 12 COACH OF THE YEAR



Just two seasons in at the reins of the Oklahoma women's gymnastics squad, 2008 Big 12 Coach of the Year K.J. Kindler has already stamped an indelible mark on the Sooner program. For the second straight year, Kindler guided OU to its *highest ever finish*, posting the *most wins* in program history and recording the *best winning percentage* of any Sooner squad along the way.

Named head coach of the Sooners in the summer of 2006, Kindler has quickly positioned the OU squad among the nation's elite, as the Sooners have finished eighth at the NCAA Championships the last two years.

Last season proved to be a storybook year for the Sooners under Kindler, as OU won its first 21 meetings of the season (the only squad in the country to win all of its regular season contests) en route to the program's first Big 12 title since 2004.

Under the direction of Kindler, OU made its fifth straight NCAA Championships appearance in 2008, adding to its program-record streak. Prior to the current five consecutive showings, the Sooners hadn't been in the field in back-to-back seasons in the 27-year history of the program.

Kindler's last four collegiate squads have qualified for the NCAA Championships, while every squad of her head coaching tenure has advanced to NCAA regional competition.

***Oklahoma gymnasts have flourished under the 2005 National Association of Collegiate Gymnastics Coaches/Women (NACGCW) Coach of the Year, as Oklahoma produced a conference-leading nine spots on the 2008 regular season All-Big 12 Team.***

OU recorded only two scores lower than 9.8 in the final three events of the '08 conference championship as the Sooners clinched at least a share of all four individual event titles - marking just the third time in Big 12 history that a school clinched at least a share of all four apparatus wins.

Hollie Vise and Haley DeProspero won titles on bars and beam, respectively, as the pair both recorded scores of 9.9 in their event wins. Kiara Redmond won the other two titles, taking home the vault win with her 9.95 and the floor exercise title after a score of 9.9.

Following OU's come-from-behind heroics in the conference championship, Kindler was named Big 12 Coach of the Year for a fourth time, while Redmond garnered Big 12 Gymnast of the Year honors.

The Sooners have produced at least one All-American in each season under Kindler's tutelage, as Redmond capped off her illustrious career with four additional All-America honors in 2008, moving her career total to nine - the highest tally of any gymnast in program history.

Kindler serves as the primary coach for the balance beam and also choreographs the beam and floor exercise routines. The Sooners ended the 2008 season with an regional qualifying score (RQS) of 49.195 on beam, tops in the Big 12 and sixth best in the NCAA. OU had three of the top four individual RQS in the conference on the apparatus, including DeProspero's Big 12-leading RQS of 9.9, which ranked fifth in the country. Oklahoma gymnasts took home 12 individual event titles on beam in 2008, led by DeProspero's nine event wins.

Always emphasizing academics, Kindler's squads have regularly placed its gymnasts on the Big 12 All-Academic teams and the NACGC All-Academic squads.

***For the second consecutive season, five members of the Oklahoma women's gymnastics team earned NACGC All-Academic honors, led by Caitlin Hinkis and Jessica Kinder, both of whom posted perfect 4.0 GPAs.***

▶▶▶ **KINDLER PROFILE**

**EDUCATION**

- B.A. Communications/Spanish minor (Iowa State, 1992)

**COACHING EXPERIENCE**

- Head Coach (Oklahoma, 2006-Present)
- Head Coach (Iowa State, 2001-2006)
- Assistant Coach (Iowa State, 1992-2001)

**CAREER COACHING HIGHLIGHTS**

- Led OU to program-best eighth place finish at 2007 and '08 NCAA's
- Named 2008 Big 12 Coach of the Year
- Guided OU to 2008 Big 12 Championship crown
- Only squad to post undefeated regular season in 2008 (18-0)
- Led Sooner beam squad to the top RQS in the Big 12
- OU beam team won 12 individual event titles in 2008
- Oklahoma gymnasts earned four All-America honors in 2008
- Guided Sooners to four event titles at 2008 Big 12 Championship
- Led OU to four individual event crowns at '08 Big 12 Championship
- Coached 2008 Big 12 Gymnast of the Year Kiara Redmond
- Led Iowa State to the program's first Super Six in 2006
- Won 2006 Big 12 Championship with Iowa State
- Produced three All-Americans in three seasons (2000, 2005, 2006)
- 2004 and 2006 NCAA Regional Coach of the Year
- Four-time Big 12 Coach of the Year (2004, 2005, 2006, 2008)
- 2005 NACGCW Coach of the Year
- Coached eight NCAA Regional event champions
- Qualified 11 gymnasts for the NCAA individual championships
- Coached 22 Big 12 champions (including three all-arounders)

**ATHLETIC HIGHLIGHTS (IOWA STATE)**

- Three-time team MVP
- 1992 Big Eight all-around runner-up
- Qualified for three NCAA Regionals
- First individual regional qualifier in program history

- ▼ Kindler and husband, Lou Ball, welcomed the birth of their second daughter, Adelaide, in September of 2008. She joins sister Maggie Grace (2) in the Ball family, who reside in Norman.



The pair were the only gymnasts in the Big 12 to notch 4.0 GPAs during both semesters. Six OU gymnasts were named to the 2008 Academic All-Big 12 Gymnastics Team, including four first-team members.

Prior to her hiring at OU, Kindler spent six seasons as the head coach at Iowa State.

***“We are dedicated to filling our staff with the best and brightest minds in coaching,” said OU Athletics Director Joe Castiglione, upon Kindler’s hiring. “K.J. Kindler brings a reputation of great achievement in all aspects of leading a program.”***

***“She impressed us not only with her accomplishment to this point, but with her lofty goals for the future and her plan for reaching those goals. We are thrilled to work with K.J. and her staff as we pursue championships.”***

Kindler’s 2006 season culminated with Iowa State’s third trip to the NCAA National Championships and its first appearance among the Super Six (teams that qualify from the preliminaries to compete for the national title).

The 24-10 Cyclones produced three All-Americans for a second consecutive season, while posting an undefeated mark at home, a 10-1 dual record and an 8-1 standard in duals against ranked opponents. The team also snapped Nebraska’s 60-meet home winning streak.

The 2006 squad won its first Big 12 Championship since 2000, and three Cyclone gymnasts earned either an outright or a share of individual titles at the meet.

Since she took over head coaching duties at ISU in 2001, Kindler coached eight regional event champions, 11 NCAA individual championship qualifiers and 18 Big 12 champions (three all-arounders).

Kindler, an Iowa State graduate, joined the Cyclone staff as an assistant coach in 1992.

As an ISU gymnast, she was a three-time MVP for the Cyclones and runner-up in the all-around at the 1992 Big Eight Conference Championship. She was the school’s first individual NCAA Regional qualifier, competing three times in the postseason meet.

Kindler hails from Lake Elmo, Minn., and trained under Mary Jane Olsen at Hamline University in St. Paul. In high school, she moved to Connecticut and trained under Frank and Laurie DeFrancesco at Arena Academy in Stamford and Walter Hawkes at Wilton High School. In Connecticut, she won many conference and state titles.

The eldest of five siblings, Kindler hails from a gymnastics family. One sister, Lori, competed at the University of Minnesota. She and her husband own and operate Flips Gymnastics in the Twin Cities area. Kindler’s nieces, Emma and Lucy Kindler, enjoy recreational gymnastics.

Kindler is married to OU assistant coach Lou Ball. The couple has two daughters, Maggie (2), and Adelaide born in September of 2008.