
2021 College Gymnastics Association



Awards Program



Statement from CGA President

Mike Burns



Last year at this time we were just at the start of a year that some would prefer to forget altogether. We lost the last part of our season which was devastating to us all. No conference and national champions were crowned, no All-Americans were determined, no epic battles were fought on the competition floor. And that was a bitter pill to swallow. Every one of us was impacted in a negative way. Something we always expected to happen was taken away and that started the process of self reflection and trying to manage the tidal wave of emotions that washed over us all. It was a time we'd all like to forget indeed.

However, if we decided to forget this crazy year, think about all of the awesome things we'd be purging from our memories. All the Zoom meetings with our teams that helped strengthen the bonds within our teams; all the ways you found to stay in shape; all the injuries that actually had a chance to heal a little further; all the positive energy you were forced to find in the face of adversity to just find a way. Adversity is an interesting thing. At first it seems impenetrable, a problem without a solution. But then, what happens? Our collective creative juices start to flow and solutions are discovered. We enter the 'Lewis & Clark' phase of discovery. We drive into unknown territory and while it seems daunting at first, lo and behold, we adjust to a new way of thinking and acting that never would have occurred if not for the original adversity we encountered.

So, don't forget this year. Oh no, remember it because it's worth remembering. Remember all you learned and all you endured in order to get to this point in your lives. From moments like these comes the innovation that allows us to just find a way. We have all developed new tools this year that fill our tool box of life. Take that tool box with you wherever you go and realize all the things you're capable of managing because of what you've had to manage in the past 13 months. Your resiliency impresses me. Take a moment to be impressed with yourselves and what you've accomplished this year. And don't ever forget!!

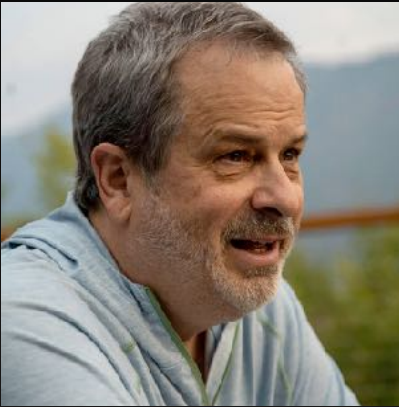
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In Memoriam

In the past year, the gymnastics community has lost five very illustrious members. We honor them here.



Dave Juszczyk

Stanford Assistant Coach, San Jose State
Head Coach, Judge
August 20th, 1958 - February 22nd, 2021

The gymnastics community lost a tremendous contributor, Dave Juszczyk, who passed away on February 22, 2021. Dave was 62 years young and had a lifelong obsession with the sport of gymnastics. Dave started as an enthusiast and spectator, but immediately moved into judging and coaching as his passion grew.

Dave's coaching career started in 1982 at the Loveland Gymnastics center working with preschoolers, beginners, and eventually graduating to the boy's competitive program. He developed the foundation of his coaching philosophies working with junior boys before moving to California in the 1990's. In California, Dave's coaching career advanced quickly rising to an assistant coach at Stanford and head coach for San Jose State University working with senior gymnasts, national and Olympic team members. In later years, Dave worked as a coaching clinician for many NCAA programs and at the USOPTC to help develop senior national team members. Dave was a tremendous contributor to the men's gymnastics program.

Paralleling his coaching career, Dave also developed his skills as one of the USA's finest judges both domestically and internationally. Dave rose to the level of National Technical VP for the NGJA (National Gymnastics Judges Association) while working tirelessly to develop new young judges. Dave judged over 15 US senior national competitions and represented the US in over a dozen international competitions as well.

One of Dave's greatest attributes was willingness to share his knowledge and work with any level of gymnast, coach, or judge. His passion for teaching the basics of our sport to the basics of judging were just as exciting as working with the highest levels of gymnasts, coaches, or judges.

Probably Dave's greatest gift was his friendship. He had an uncanny ability to make everyone feel special and include them in his universe of activities. Many will also miss his quick wit and tremendous sense of humor which challenged us all, but helped everyone feel comfortable. Everyone who knew Dave has a deep sense of loss and we will all miss him.

Dave is survived by his wife and son, Pamela and Luca, as well as his two brothers, Tim and Mike.

-Mike Juszczyk



Mark Cuyjet

Temple University Gymnast and Coach, Judge
November 5th, 1953 - October 23, 2020

Mark Cuyjet, a Temple team member from 1972 to 1976 and several times my assistant coach, died early the morning of October 23, 2020. Mark was a judge for many years and gave much back to our sport. Mark was a 1976 grad of Temple and was a fine gymnast. He assisted me with my early teams and got into judging shortly after graduating. Mark judged as long as his health allowed him to do so, despite suffering from an inherited neurodegenerative disorder similar to ALS disease that also claimed the life of his brother recently, as well as his father some years earlier. Like his gymnastics, Mark was a fighter - even judging in later years getting in and out of the gym in a wheelchair. His judging career lasted well over 30 years at both the Junior and Collegiate levels and he was an honored member of the EGJA Hall of Fame.



-Fred Turoff

In Memoriam

In the past year, the gymnastics community has lost five very illustrious members. We honor them here.

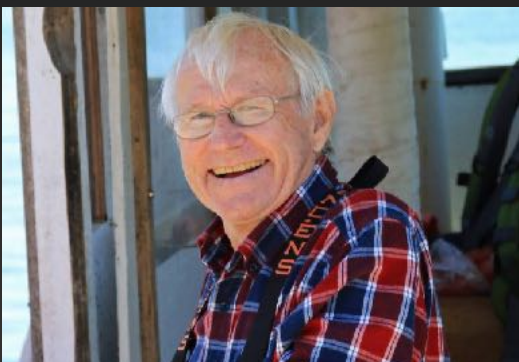


Harry Bjerke

Hall of Fame Judge
July 16th, 1940 - August 11th, 2020

Harry Bjerke was one of the most accomplished American Judges of all time. His knowledge and expertise earned him the rank of technical expert from the FIG, one of only three Americans to be given this distinction. Harry's laundry list of high-level judging appearances is topped by his three Olympic appearances in Atlanta (1996), Sydney (2000), and Athens (2004). Although few could rival Harry's level of judging excellence, he did his best to educate others in the judging community. This included him leading the Continental Judge's course four times and serving on the Board of Directors to the NGJA for over 25 years.

Harry's greatest impact on gymnastics will never be forgotten as he led the movement to standardize judging with a Code of Points. Since the time that Harry competed until today, gymnastics has modernized tremendously, and thanks to him, the rules have kept up. The new system Harry helped to design removes the subjectivity and politics from gymnastics, and gives gymnasts a level playing field. Thanks to Harry, the days of unfair and biased judging are far behind us. The scope of his impact may never be fully realized, as there is no way to count the number of skills performed and deductions taken under the standardized Code of Points. However, we can all certainly thank Harry for the tremendous influence he has had on shaping modern gymnastics and keeping our sport free from bias and focused on the achievements of the gymnasts.



Peter Bacon

Hall of Fame Judge and Gymnastics Ambassador
July 30th, 1942 - December 8th, 2020

Peter Bacon has been a major contributor to the world of gymnastics, and especially in the New England area since his collegiate career at Springfield College. Peter was a varsity gymnast and soccer player at Springfield College and graduated in 1965. Peter went on to have an incredibly successful career in judging after his graduation. He began with judging high school competitions in the New England area, followed by collegiate competitions, and would eventually rise to the rank of FIG Brevet judge in 1980.

After receiving this certification, Peter immediately put it to good use, judging an International Friendship meet in the summer of 1980 in the wake of the Moscow Olympic Games Boycott. Just two years later, he would go on to judge the World University games as well as a competition between the United States and Hungary. Following his stellar performances at these meets, Peter went on to judge every level of competition in the United States including the JO National Championships, American Cup, and Winter Cup.

In addition to his impact as a judge, Peter went above and beyond to share his love of gymnastics. He was the primary founder of the "Friends of Gymnastics" golf event, which has helped to raise money for Region 6 gymnastics and the Timothy Kormann Scholarship Fund. Peter constantly encouraged high school athletes to pursue their dream of competing in college and helped many young gymnasts to find their way into collegiate gymnastics. His presence in Region 6, and in the gymnastics world as a whole, will be greatly missed.

In Memoriam

In the past year, the gymnastics community has lost five very illustrious members. We honor them here.



Kurt Thomas

Indiana State University, Olympian 1976
March 29th, 1956 - June 5th, 2020

Kurt Thomas was a trailblazer for men's gymnastics in the United States. He was the first American to win a World Championships title and was a member of the 1976 Olympic Team. Kurt holds the record for most medals won by an American at a World Championships with 6 medals won at the 1979 World Championships in Fort Worth, TX. Kurt was poised to win numerous medals at the 1980 Olympic Games before the United States boycotted the games. Kurt retired from the sport after the boycott but made a return in a bid to make the 1992 Olympic team. During his unsuccessful run to make the 1992 team, Kurt became the oldest person to make a US Senior National team at the age of 36. Beyond his World Championship and Olympic bids, Kurt is a three-time American Cup Champion (1978-1980) as well as a four-time Pan-American games medalist. In 2003 Kurt was inducted into the International Gymnastics Hall of Fame.

Kurt was also an extremely accomplished collegiate gymnast for Indiana State University. A five-time NCAA champion, Kurt led his team to an NCAA team title in 1977.

Beyond his decorations and accolades, Kurt contributed immensely to the growth and development of the sport. Kurt was known for a style and artistry in the sport that has been emulated for generations. He also invented and popularized skills that have become mainstays in gymnastics. A common element on Floor Exercise and Pommel Horse, the "Thomas Flair", was brought to the limelight by Kurt and has been a fan favorite ever since. He also created the "Thomas" on floor, a one-and-three-quarter flip with one-and-a-half twists ending in a roll out.

Outside of the gym, Kurt starred in the movie, *Gymkata*. The movie put men's gymnastics into the spotlight and helped to popularize the sport beyond the gymnastics community, although sometimes due to unintentional comedy throughout the film.

Kurt has been lauded as the "Baryshnikov" of men's gymnastics by the *New York Times*. The legacy of Kurt Thomas is synonymous with men's gymnastics success in the United States.

After his days in the spotlight, Kurt and his wife, Rebecca, ran Kurt Thomas Gymnastics Training Center in Plano, TX. The couple ran the gym until Kurt's passing on June 5th, 2020.



CGA Honorary Memberships

Honorary Membership in the CGA is awarded to selected retired collegiate coaches with ten years or more of active service in the association, Honor Coach recipients, or others chosen to be so honored. Nominees must be confirmed by 2/3 vote of Honorary Lifetime Committee. An honorary Member is entitled to the privilege of voice and vote, for life, in all CGA matters.



Scott Barclay

Arizona State University
Gymnast, Head Coach

To say that Scott Barclay has been a staple of college gymnastics would be beyond an understatement. Scott has helped to revolutionize the world of non school-funded collegiate gymnastics in his role at Arizona State University. Scott attended ASU from 1974-1978 where he was on scholarship as a Division I gymnast and helped lead the team to a second place finish at the NCAA Championships in 1978. During this time he was also an All-American on Parallel Bars and in the All-Around. Scott continued to compete as a member of the US National Team which he represented internationally.

After his competitive career, Scott stayed active in the gymnastics community becoming a full-time assistant coach of the ASU team in 1986 after a national title run. Scott held the team together through the 1990's as the program was cut from the athletic department and eventually had their gym taken away from them, all while balancing the growth of a

junior program with his wife Dona. While this alone is a feat that not many could achieve, Scott was just getting started.

In the coming decade, both the ASU collegiate program and the successful junior program were outgrowing their current space. This led Scott to form Aspire Gymnastics, which now hosts the ASU team's training facility. This new model for collegiate gymnastics proved tremendously successful with the Sun Devils winning 18 Collegiate National Championships, including an astounding 12 in a row.

This success has paved the way for other programs to replicate Scott's style. The rise in non school-funded programs sparked Scott to found GymACT in 2018 as an alternative division to the existing NCAA and NAIGC, so these new high-level teams would have a place to compete. There are now 10 other teams which have followed in ASU's footsteps of training in a junior gym and competing at the collegiate level. Without a shadow of a doubt, none of this would have been possible without Scott Barclay.

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Yefim Furman

*Soviet Olympian
UCLA & National Team Coach*

Yefim Furman may be best known for his appearances on NBC’s coverage of the Olympics from 2012 and 2016, but this was not his first time in the Olympic arena. He claimed a team silver medal at the 1972 Munich Olympic Games as an alternate for the Soviet Union. Yefim came to the United States where he would coach the UCLA team for 17 years. During that time he gained recognition as a successful coach, mentoring the likes of Olympians Tim Daggett, Chris Waller, Chainey Umphrey, Scott Keswick, and Steve McCain. As a coach, Furman was on the floor at the World Championships in 1991, 1993, and 1994. Furman was also an assistant coach for the 1990 Goodwill Games.

The many accomplishments throughout Yefim’s storied coaching career has led him to his current position as the Head Coach at the Los Angeles School of Gymnastics. He has held this position since 1998 and is known affectionately as “The Backhandspring Doctor”. Yefim also travels the world as a gymnastics consultant for both male and female programs to help improve the training and techniques.

Outside of the gym, Yefim has worked extensively with movie stars to prepare them for physically taxing roles. The list of celebrities that have worked under Yefim includes Jada Pickett-Smith and Drew Barrymore.

Whether you have worked with Yefim directly or not, your gymnastics career has been improved, at least tangentially, by the work of Yefim Furman.

CGA Honor Coach Awards

The first Honor Coach Award of the College Gymnastics Association was presented in 1954. This award is given annually to a member coach of twenty-five years or more who has gained the admiration of his coaching associates. The award reads as follows: "In recognition of his service in coaching and developing gymnastics for over twenty-five years. He has gained the respect of his associates in the gymnastics world by his inspiring example and accomplishments."



Stacy Maloney

Iowa State University - Gymnast
Swiss Turners - Coach

Stacy Maloney, known best as the coach of Paul and Morgan Hamm is a recipient of this year's Honor Coach award. Stacy was a gymnast at Iowa State University from 1976-1980 during which time he was part of a national runner-up team in 1980 and won the Big 8 Conference Scholar-Athlete of the year award. He also was a member of the USA Senior National Team in both 1977 and 1982.

Stacy began his coaching career in 1981 under coach Ken Allen at the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh where he helped lead the team to an NCAA Division III title. In 1982 He moved to the University of Illinois to complete his MBA and assisted Illini Head Coach, Yoshi Hayasaki, until 1985. During his tenure at Illinois, Maloney helped lead the team to a Big Ten team title tie in 1983 and mentored Illinois gymnastics greats, Charlie Lakes, Butch Zurich, and Fred Perukun.

In 1986, Maloney moved to Wisconsin and began coaching the Hamm twins out of Salto Gymnastics, and later at Swiss Turners in West Allis, WI. Stacy built up the boys program at Swiss Turners to become the preeminent Junior Boys' program in the United States. In 1998 Maloney was named the coach for the US Junior Pan-American Championships team that ended up winning the gold medal and his gymnast, Paul Hamm, won the all-around title. In 2000, Maloney coached Paul and Morgan Hamm to Olympic births making them the second youngest men to ever make an Olympic squad. Maloney's coaching only picked up from there and in 2002 he was named the coach for the Pacific Alliance Championships where both the team and Paul won gold yet again. 2003 was another big year in Maloney's career as he was named the assistant coach for the 2003 World Championships Team. The US team won the silver medal that year and Paul went on to win the all-around and floor titles. Paul went on to win the all-around at the 2004 Olympic Games in Athens, Greece.

Throughout his coaching career, Stacy Maloney produced 31 Junior and Senior National Team members. He was also named the USAG Men's National Coach of the Year in 1999 and 2004. In 2000, he was named the 2000 Olympic Men's Gymnastics Coach of the Year, and in 2001 he was inducted into the USA Gymnastics Hall of Fame as a coach.



Tom Meadows

University of Oklahoma - Gymnast
Cypress Academy - Coach

Tom Meadows, the face of junior boys gymnastics juggernaut, Cypress Academy of Gymnastics, is a recipient of this year's Honor Coaches Award for his tireless work in advancing the junior program in the United States.

As an athlete, Tom got his start at Parkettes in Allentown, PA where he excelled, consistently placing in the upper echelon of junior athletes. In 1990 he won the Class I Junior Olympic all-around title and the national titles on rings and parallel bars. Starting in 1990, Tom joined the University of Oklahoma men's gymnastics team where he was a 4-year letter winner and member of the 1991 Sooner Squad that won the NCAA championship title. 1992 was a big year for Meadows as he also won a silver medal at the 1991 Olympic Festival. In 1992 and 1993, Meadows took home the Big 8 title on the rings and in 1992, he earned All-American honors for his 4th place finish on the floor at NCAA championships. In 1994, Tom was a Nissen-Emery Award finalist.

Upon earning his degree in education from the University of Oklahoma, Meadows began his coaching career at Dynamo/OK Gold gymnastics. The following year Tom moved to Cypress Academy in Houston, TX and has been the head coach of the program since 2001. During his time at Cypress, Tom has coached 17 National Team members including Raj Bhavsar, Jon Horton, Chris Brooks, Dylan Akers, Matthew Wenske, and Garrett Braunton. Included on the list of his mentees are three Olympians, Raj Bhavsar (2008), Jon Horton (2008, 2012), and Chris Brooks (2016).

Meadows' coaching accolades are record-breaking as he has produced 12 Level 10 National Team Champions including the last five in a row. His athletes have won a combined total of over 50 Junior and Senior National titles with gymnasts earning 12 gold medals internationally. A member of the Junior National Coaching Staff since 2000 and a member of the JOPC since 2012, Tom has presented at every National Congress since 1995 on a wide range of topics from complex strength skills to program growth and development.

The list of Tom's accolades includes the 2003 Robert Town Award and the USA Junior Coach of the year award for 2015, 2016, 2018, and 2019. In 2011, Meadows won the Senior coach of the year award. Meadows is also the 2014 recipient of the Region 3 Honor Award and the Roberto Pompido Coach of the Year Award in 2017-2019.

CGA Regular Season All-Americans: NCAA

On March 12, 2020, the NCAA announced the cancellation of the remaining season for all winter sports, including men's gymnastics. Without an NCAA Championships during the 2020 season, All-America honors were not awarded by the NCAA. The CGA pushed an initiative forward to honor the student-athletes who rank in the top eight, plus ties, on each individual event and the all-around standings for that year. Keeping the tradition alive, the CGA is again honoring the 2021 CGA Regular Season All-Americans in the NCAA based on three-score averages prior to conference championships as reflected by Road to Nationals, the official statistical platform for reporting meet scores throughout the season.

Individual Events



1. [Gage Dyer](#) | Oklahoma
2. Matt Cormier | Penn State
3. Paul Juda | Michigan
4. Shane Wiskus | Minnesota
5. Morgan Seyler | Oklahoma
6. Jake Bonnay | Nebraska
7. Blake Wilson | Stanford
8. Connor McCool | Illinois

Floor Exercise



1. [Taylor Christophulos](#) | Nebraska
2. Brandon Nguyen | Stanford
3. Curran Phillips | Stanford
4. Brandon Briones | Stanford
5. Mason Menser | Oklahoma
6. Evan Manivong | Illinois
7. Paul Juda | Michigan
8. Charlie Giles | Nebraska
9. Riley Loos | Stanford

Vault



1. [Cameron Bock](#) | Michigan
2. Paul Juda | Michigan
3. Nick Mock | Penn State
4. Brody Malone | Stanford
5. Michael Jaroh | Penn State
6. Ian Skirkey | Illinois
7. Markus Shears | Michigan
8. Cooper Giles | Nebraska
9. Evan Kriley | Nebraska

Pommel Horse



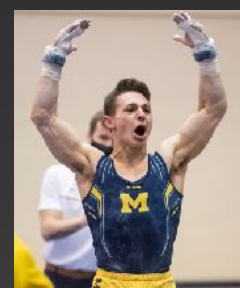
1. [Brody Malone](#) | Stanford
2. Paul Juda | Michigan
3. Blake Sun | Stanford
4. Cameron Bock | Michigan
5. Matt Wenske | Oklahoma
6. Shane Wiskus | Minnesota
7. Evgeny Siminiuc | Michigan
8. Jesse Tyndall | Ohio State

Parallel Bars



1. [Cameron Bock](#) | Michigan
2. Paul Juda | Michigan
3. Parker Clayton | Penn State
4. Riley Loos | Stanford
5. James Read | Michigan
6. Daniel Graham | Illinois
7. Shane Wiskus | Minnesota
8. Ian Gunther | Stanford

Still Rings



1. [Paul Juda](#) | Michigan
2. Hamish Carter | Illinois
3. Shane Wiskus | Minnesota
4. Vitaliy Guimaraes | Oklahoma
5. Donte McKinney | Minnesota
6. Dillan King | Nebraska
7. Crew Bold | Minnesota
8. Jesse Tyndall | Ohio State

Horizontal Bar

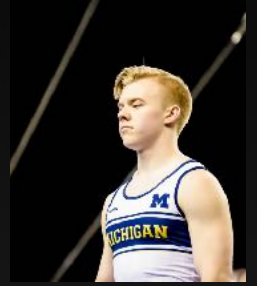
CGA Regular Season All-Americans: NCAA

All-Around



Paul Juda

1. Paul Juda | Michigan



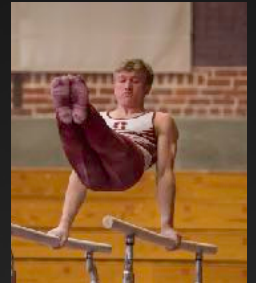
Cameron Bock

2. Cameron Bock | Michigan



Shane Wiskus

3. Shane Wiskus | Minnesota



Riley Loos

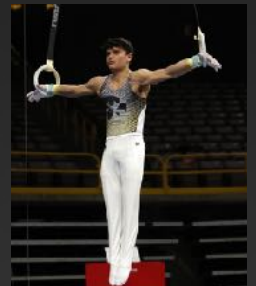
4. Riley Loos | Stanford

5. Bennett Huang | Iowa



Bennet Huang

6. Evan Davis | Iowa



Evan Davis

7. Spencer Goodell | Oklahoma



Spencer Goodell

8. Hamish Carter | Illinois



Hamish Carter

CGA Regular Season All-Americans: GymACT

On March 12, 2020, the NCAA announced the cancellation of the remaining season for all winter sports, including men's gymnastics. Without an NCAA Championships in 2020, All-America honors were not awarded by the NCAA. The CGA continued to push the initiative forward to honor the student-athletes who rank in the top six, plus ties, on each individual event and the all-around standings in the GymACT division in 2021 with CGA Regular Season All-Americans based on three-score averages prior to conference championships as reflected by Road to Nationals, the official statistical platform for reporting meet scores throughout the season.

Individual Events



1. [Kiwann Watts](#) | Arizona State
2. Esteban Montiel | Arizona State
3. Dalton Hopkins | Arizona State
4. Ethan DiGerolamo | Arizona State
5. Anthony Mills | Arizona State
6. David Dortmund | Northern Illinois

Floor Exercise



1. [Kiwann Watts](#) | Arizona State
2. Vincent Colosimo | Arizona State
3. Anthony Mills | Arizona State
4. Esteban Montiel | Arizona State
5. David Dortmund | Northern Illinois
6. Dalton Hopkins | Arizona State

Vault



1. [Kiwann Watts](#) | Arizona State
2. Dylan Hauptmeir | Arizona State
3. David Dortmund | Northern Illinois
4. Clayton Cunningham | Arizona State
5. Sean McClure | Arizona State
6. Anthony Mills | Arizona State

Pommel Horse



1. [Kiwann Watts](#) | Arizona State
2. Anthony Mills | Arizona State
3. Vincent Colosimo | Arizona State
4. Mason McNeel | Arizona State
5. David Dortmund | Northern Illinois
6. Jake Schroeder | Arizona State

Parallel Bars



1. [Anthony Mills](#) | Arizona State
2. Austin Jones | Arizona State
3. Dalton Hopkins | Arizona State
4. Ethan DiGerolamo | Arizona State
5. Jordan Bird | Arizona State
6. Zach Cipra | Northern Illinois

Still Rings

1. [Anthony Mills](#) | Arizona State
2. Kiwan Watts | Arizona State
3. Mason McNeel | Arizona State
4. Jake Schroeder | Washington
5. Jordan Bird | Arizona State
6. David Dortmund | Northern Illinois



Horizontal Bar

CGA Regular Season All-Americans: GymACT

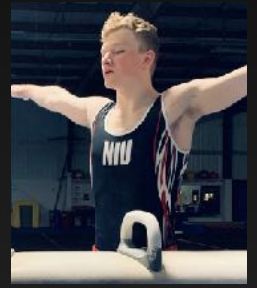
All-Around



Anthony Mills

1. Anthony Mills | Arizona State

2. David Dortmund | Northern Illinois



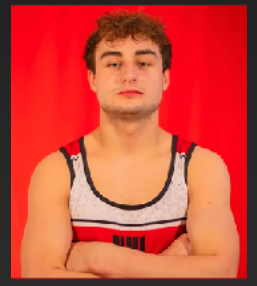
David Dortmund

3. Micah Puckett | Northern Illinois



Micah Puckett

4. Cole Schreiber | Northern Illinois



Cole Schreiber

2021 CGA Yearly Awards

In 2018, the CGA implemented three new awards to honor the MVP of the Year, Rookie of the Year, and Specialist of the Year during the regular season. Each program is allowed to nominate one athlete for each award. The nominees were analyzed and debated on by a panel of gymnastics experts with distinctly unique perspectives. Each member of the panel was then given one vote for each award.



Paul Juda | Michigan

MVP of the Year

This award is given to the most outstanding NCAA Men's Gymnast of the Year who provided the greatest value to his team and is not limited to all-arounders. An athlete may be nominated regardless of his year in school.



Noah Newfeld | California

Rookie of the Year

This award is given to the most outstanding NCAA Men's Rookie of the Year and is not limited to all-arounders. This award is for athletes who are competing in their first year of NCAA competition.



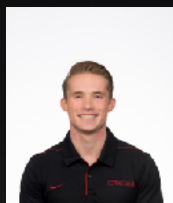
Gage Dyer | Oklahoma

Specialist of the Year

This award is given to the most outstanding NCAA Men's Gymnast on a single event. It will be given to a gymnast who dominated his event more than any other gymnast dominated any other event. This award is not limited to a gymnast that only competes on one event. A gymnast can only be nominated for one event for this award.

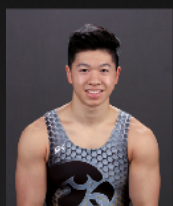
2021 Nissen-Emery Award Finalists

In 1966, College Gymnastics' highest student honor, the Nissen Award, was created by George Nissen to honor the outstanding senior collegiate male gymnasts. In 1989, Dr. Robert Emery established an endowment that would provide indefinitely for the award. James H. Stephenson, 1973 NCAA All-American and Nissen Award Finalist, is the sculptor for the newly designed Nissen-Emery Award. In order to win this award, a gymnast must be an example of good sportsmanship and fair play in victory and defeat. He must also maintain a high degree of scholarship. The trophy is inscribed: "The true champion seeks excellence physically, mentally, socially, and morally."



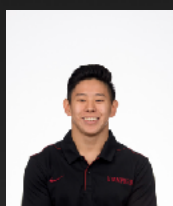
ANDREW BITNER | STANFORD | Management Science and Engineering | 3.2 GPA

Andrew Bitner, a Hoschton, GA native, has been a staple on all of Stanford's lineups during his career. Before coming to Stanford, he was a seven-time all-around state champion in Georgia and a three-time Region 8 Champion. In college, he has been a consistent all-around competitor, but has shone brightest on rings. In 2019 he was honored as an All-American on the event after placing fourth at the NCAA championships. In addition to his successful gymnastics career, Andrew has succeeded academically as well earning two CGA and one MSPF All-America Scholar-Athlete awards. As a senior captain, Andrew has led the Cardinal in defense of their national title streak despite a season-ending knee injury.



BENNET HUANG | IOWA | Music | 3.47 GPA

Bennet Huang, a native of Palo Alto, CA, has been a remarkable Iowa gymnast. He is the current team captain and has not missed a single meet as gymnast at Iowa, many of which were All-Around performances. A relentless competitor, his talent, leadership, and resolve have defined the successes of Iowa gymnastics these last four years. He is a dynamic athlete and an incredibly reliable all-around competitor. He is also an internationally accomplished musician that has elegantly balanced the intensive, time-consuming practice of both gymnastics and cello. As an athlete, Bennet garnered a regular season All-American citation in 2020 as the 4th best All-Around gymnast in the country throughout the year.



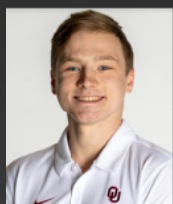
BLAKE SUN | STANFORD | Biology | 3.52 GPA

Blake Sun, a native of San Antonio, TX, has been a star for Stanford on Pommel Horse and Parallel Bars during his career. In this specialist role, he has earned two NCAA All-American Awards on Parallel Bars, including a second place finish in 2019. In addition to his success in competition, Blake has been a leader for the Cardinal, guiding the team to an NCAA regular season title as a captain in 2020 and retaining the role into 2021. Blake exemplifies the best of all aspects of a student-athlete, being successful in competition and the classroom earning two CGA and two MSPF All-America Scholar-Athlete awards. A strong student, athlete, and leader, Blake is the epitome of a well-rounded collegiate gymnast.



CAMERON BOCK | MICHIGAN | Economics | 3.0 GPA

Cameron Bock, originally from Capistrano, CA, has been a dominant competitor in the NCAA, on the US national level, and in international competitions. Cameron has earned numerous accolades including five All-American Awards (2018-PB, 2019-AA, 2020-PH, SR, PB) and was the 2019 Big Ten All-Around Champion. In addition to his success in the NCAA, he has also been a member of the US National team (2018-19, 21) including winning the Winter Cup in 2021. He has represented the US internationally at the Pan Am Championships, where he took third place in the all-around. Additionally, he aided Team USA to a victory at the 2016 University of Calgary International Cup.



MATT WENSKE | OKLAHOMA | Psychology | 3.62 GPA

Matt Wenske, from Houston, TX, has been a resilient and exciting competitor for the Sooners during his career at Oklahoma. Although he suffered two significant injuries during his career, he came back stronger each time, culminating in two very successful years of All-Around competition during 2020 and 2021. In 2021, he currently sits as the #10 ranked All-Arounder in the nation. Along with his gymnastics, Matt has earned several academic awards including being named a 2020 MPSF Scholar-Athlete and Academic All-Big 12 At-Large Team Selection. Matt personifies the never-quit attitude, shown by many Sooners and continues to fight for his team regardless of setbacks.



SHANE WISKUS | MINNESOTA | Business and Marketing Education | 3.315 GPA

Shane Wiskus, of Spring Park, MN, has been a leader and fierce competitor for the Gophers during his highly-decorated career. Shane has won nine All-American Awards (2018-AA, SR, HB, 2019-AA, VT, PB 2020-AA, PB, HB) including a first place finish in the All-around in 2020. Shane also has represented the USA internationally at the World Championships in 2019, and helped to secure the team's qualification to the 2021 Tokyo Olympics. He also competed in the 2020 American Cup where he earned fourth place amongst a field of international competitors. Shane has lead the Gophers as a team captain for two years and has been a two time Academic All Big Ten Recipient and once as a distinguished scholar.

NCAA Regional Head Coaches of the Year

Regional Head Coach of the Year recognition began in 1961 when each region nominated a Regional Coach of the Year. In 1973, when the National Coach of the Year was no longer selected by nomination and ballot, the CGA continued electing the Regional Head Coaches of the Year. Ballots are received from each active member in each region for selection of one Regional Head Coach of the year. In 1997, the voting regions were realigned into three regions: West, Central, and East.



Mike Powell | East Region
William & Mary

In his 5th season at the helm of William & Mary gymnastics, Powell has led his team to an NCAA team birth for the first time since 2017.

A tumultuous year for the Tribe did not deter Powell as he led his team to a 2nd place ECAC conference finish and team qualification to NCAA Championships. In the summer of 2020 William & Mary announced that the gymnastics program would be discontinued after the season. Powell was ready for the challenge and in the midst of a pandemic he managed to save the program, which was reinstated in the winter of 2021.

Prior to his tenure as the face of the gymnastics at William & Mary, Powell was a student athlete for the Tribe where he lettered all four years and was part of two National Academic title winning teams.



KURT GOLDER | Central Region
University of Michigan

Kurt Golder is no stranger to success and is back in the spotlight after a terrific pair of seasons in 2020 and 2021.

Golder has been at the helm for Michigan since 1996 and led the program to four national titles. This season, Golder has an experienced team that is coming off of a convincing Big Ten Conference Championship victory. Since the beginning of the season, the Golder-led Wolverines have looked poised to make a serious run for the NCAA title.

Golder was a member of the U.S. Olympic Team Coaching Staff in 2012 serving as the personal coach of 2014 Nissen-Emery Award winner, Sam Mikulak.



MARK WILLIAMS | West Region
University of Oklahoma

Mark Williams' last full NCAA season ended in a heartbreaking loss to Stanford. From 2015-2018 Williams' Oklahoma teams took home every single NCAA team title, but the 2019 title proved elusive. Since then, he has recruited and trained his team tirelessly to place the Sooner's back on top of the podium. Recently, Oklahoma defeated the Cardinal at the 2021 MPSF championships, setting the stage for the Sooners to reclaim the NCAA title.

Williams, a member of the USA Gymnastics Hall of Fame class of 2015, took the reins of the Oklahoma program in 2000 and has put the Sooners in title contention every championships since. He has coached the Sooners to NCAA title in 2002, 2003, 2005, 2006, 2008, 2015, 2016, 2017, and 2018.

He is a current Senior National Team coach and was the coach of the 2016 Olympic team.

GymACT Regional Head Coaches of the Year

Regional Head Coach of the Year recognition began in 1961 when each region nominated a Regional Coach of the Year. In 1973, when the National Coach of the Year was no longer selected by nomination and ballot, the CGA continued electing the Regional Head Coaches of the Year. Ballots are received from each active member in each region for selection of one Regional Head Coach of the year. There are two regions being represented in the GymACT division: East and West Regions.



Jesse Kitzen-Abelson is the recipient of the GymACT East Head Coach of the Year for the second year in a row, after a successful fourth season leading the Owls.

Kitzen-Abelson had been instrumental to Temple's success since they transitioned to a club team. Prior to his appointment as Head Coach, he was a member of the team and a two-time captain.

JESSE KITZEN-ABELSON | East Region
Temple University



Arizona State's Scott Barclay has been coaching the Sun Devils since 1979. He took over as head coach in 1993, when the program lost its varsity status, and has cultivated a nationally competitive team whose success is a testament to the resilience of collegiate men's gymnastics.

He led ASU to their 22nd national title (13 of which were consecutive) at the USA Gymnastics Men's Collegiate Nationals in 2019, where 13 Sun Devils were named All-Americans.

SCOTT BARCLAY | West Region
Arizona State University

NCAA Regional Assistant Coaches of the Year

In an effort to recognize outstanding Assistant Coaches, this award was initiated in 1989. The winner is determined by a direct vote of all active members of the CGA. The three regions represented for NCAA Regional Assistant Coaches of the Year are East Region, Central Region, and West Region.



[BO MORRIS](#) | East Region | William & Mary

Bo Morris is in his 4th year on the coaching staff for the Tribe. He has had such a tremendous impact on William & Mary gymnastics that he was promoted to Associate Head Coach in 2018. During that time, Morris has helped to produce numerous USAG All-Americans, All-ECAC recipients, and NCAA qualifiers. In addition, Morris was pivotal in saving Tribe gymnastics after they were cut in the summer of 2020 and subsequently reinstated the following winter. Prior to his time at William & Mary, Morris was a respected member of the USA Gymnastics community serving as head coach at Houston Gymnastics Center, where he developed athletes who competed on USA National teams.



[XIAO YUAN](#) | Central Region | Univeristy of Michigan

Xiao Yuan is in his 16th season with the Maize and Blue assisting in the technical aspects of the routines and leading the Wolverines' recruiting efforts. Xiao's impressive resume includes back-to-back national titles as assistant coach at both Michigan and Oklahoma. Xiao earned the 2010, 2013, and 2014 National Assistant Coach of the Year. He has coached Wolverines on the international stage at the 2009 World Championships, 2010 Japan Cup in Tokyo, and the 2011 World Championships, and 2020 Friendship and Solidarity Meet in Japan. Before moving to the United States, Xiao coached several Chinese Olympic and World Championships gymnasts.



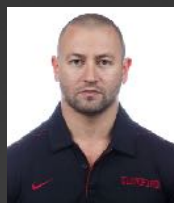
[JORDAN GAARENSTROOM](#) | Central Region | University of Michigan

Jordan Gaarenstroom is in his second season in the role of assistant coach for the Wolverines. Gaarenstroom was a two-time NCAA team champion with Michigan, and was a lineup mainstay during his four seasons in Ann Arbor. He owns a career best 15.60 on still rings, a mark that he achieved at the 2013 NCAA Championships. Since graduation, and before returning back to Ann Arbor, the Laguna Hills, CA native served as boys coach at SCATS Gymnastics in Huntington Beach, CA. The gym has produced numerous Wolverine greats in Sam Mikulak, Adrian de Los Angeles, and current Wolverine standout, Cameron Bock.



[SYQUE CAESAR](#) | West Region | Stanford University

Michigan alumnus, Syque Caesar, is in his sixth season with the Cardinal. He helped Stanford earn their sixth NCAA title in program history in 2019 and played a pivotal role in shaping the success the team had during the 2020 campaign. He has had a direct hand in Stanford's success in recruiting through his tenure. Caesar is also an FIG Brevet judge. During his collegiate career, Caesar led Michigan to three NCAA titles and earned five All-American citations. He competed for Bangladesh at the 2012 London Olympics.



[MARK FREEMAN](#) | West Region | Stanford University

Mark Freeman is in his second season as assistant coach at Stanford. He coaches on all six events and uses his strong background in strength & conditioning, functional movement, and injury prevention to keep the Stanford Cardinal fit and healthy. Freeman was an assistant coach at Cal for two seasons before joining Stanford. As a Golden Bear gymnast, he helped lead his team to three top-five national finishes. Freeman also represented his native Great Britain at the 2002 and 2003 World Championships.

GymACT Regional Assistant Coaches of the Year

In an effort to recognize outstanding Assistant Coaches, this award was initiated in 1989. The winner is determined by a direct vote of all active members of the CGA. The two regions represented for GymACT Regional Assistant Coaches of the Year are East Region and West Region.



A USA Gymnastics Hall of Fame inductee, Fred Turoff, is the assistant coach of the Owls after serving as head coach for over 40 unforgettable seasons.

On top of his time at Temple, Turoff was a member of the 1992 U.S. Olympic Team Coaching Staff and oversaw the men's team multiple times at the World Maccabiah Games in Israel.

FRED TUROFF | East Region
Temple University



A former team captain for the Sun Devils (2002-03), Survick began his coaching career in 2006 and has seen a streak of success ever since.

Named Assistant Coach of the Year in 2014, 2016, and 2020, Survick has been a key piece to Arizona State's success over the last 14+ years.

Survick has coached numerous junior athletes to collegiate programs including 2018 Youth Olympics Vault Champion, Brandon Briones.

ROB SURVICK | West Region
Arizona State University



Similar to Survick, Evan Shaw has been a Sun Devil for life having competed for the team from 2002-06. A three-time All-American as an athlete, Shaw is now an assistant under Scott Barclay.

Shaw was named Assistant Coach of the Year in 2014, 2016, and 2020.

Shaw is an FIG Brevet judge and has judged at numerous major competitions including Winter Cup Challenge, U.S. Championships, and NCAA Championships.

EVAN SHAW | West Region
Arizona State University

Richard M. Aronson Special Service Award

The first Special Service Award was presented in 1967 by Special Service Award Chairman, Lyle Welker. The award is for a person the CGA membership feels has contributed significantly to the CGA and is also designed to be given to the retiring CGA President and for outstanding service to the coaches' association.

2021 Award Winners



Michelle McDonnell

2021 NCAA Championship Director

Men's Gymnastics



John Bugner

Associate Director,

NCAA Championships & Alliances, 2015-2021



Ambert Yeung

Virtius, Inc.

Virtual Meet Platform for 2021 Collegiate

Gymnastics Season



Syque Caesar

Virtius, Inc.

Virtual Meet Platform for 2021 Collegiate

Gymnastics Season



Mike Juszczuk

NGJA President

These five individuals are recognized for their incredible work in bringing to life a collegiate gymnastics season in the midst of a world-wide pandemic with the 2021 Richard M. Aronson Special Service Award. Without the contributions of these people, and their ability to accommodate all stakeholders involved in collegiate gymnastics, a 2021 season would not have been possible.

From creating a virtual gymnastics web platform, to developing pandemic-safe championships, to long-term commitments of service to the CGA, these individuals have kept the sport of men's gymnastics alive. This group is the glue that enabled the CGA to continue the pursuit of its Vision, Mission, and Values.

2021 Nissen-Emery Award Winner

On April 15, 2021, the CGA Executive Board hosted a virtual banquet with all six Nissen-Emery Award Finalists, their parents, coaches of the universities they represent, and teams from throughout the NCAA and the collegiate men's gymnastics community as a whole to announce the winner of the prestigious award. This year's winner is...

Shane Wiskus



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA | Head Coach: Mike Burns