



PAC-12 CONFERENCE

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For Immediate Release: Wednesday, May 16, 2012

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**PAC-12 ANNOUNCES SOFTBALL ALL-CONFERENCE HONORS
CALIFORNIA'S ARIOTO NAMED PLAYER OF THE YEAR
CALIFORNIA'S HENDERSON NAMED PITCHER OF THE YEAR
UCLA'S LAROSA NAMED FRESHMAN OF THE YEAR
STANFORD'S HANSEN NAMED DEFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE YEAR
CALIFORNIA'S NINEMIRE NAMED COACH OF THE YEAR
ARIZONA STATE'S BOYD NAMED PAC-12 BATTING CHAMPION**

WALNUT CREEK, Calif. - In a vote of the Conference's head coaches, CALIFORNIA senior utility player **Valerie Arioto** has been named the 2012 Pac-12 Player of the Year, while her teammate, junior **Jolene Henderson** earned Pac-12 Pitcher of the Year for the second straight season. UCLA third baseman **Stephany LaRosa** has been named Freshman of the Year, STANFORD senior shortstop **Ashley Hansen** has been selected the Defensive Player of the Year and CALIFORNIA head coach **Diane Ninemire** has garnered Coach of the Year honors, as Commissioner Larry Scott announced the softball all-conference selections Wednesday. ARIZONA STATE senior shortstop **Katelyn Boyd** was also crowned the Pac-12 Batting Champion with a conference-leading .457 batting average.

Pac-12 Player of the Year -- Valerie Arioto, California

The Pleasanton, Calif., native becomes the first Cal player to be named Pac-12 Player of the Year. A three-time All-Pac-12 honoree, Arioto currently leads the Pac-12 with a 1.22 ERA, 1.000 slugging percentage, .626 on-base percentage and 22 home runs. She is also the NCAA leader with 1.37 walks per game (74 total). In Cal's two wins over Arizona State to clinch the Pac-12 title, Arioto hit a walk-off home run in the first game and then pitched a shutout in the second game, striking out 11. She is a finalist for USA Softball Collegiate Player of the Year and the Lowe's Senior CLASS Award.

Pac-12 Pitcher of the Year -- Jolene Henderson, California

Henderson earns Pac-12 Pitcher of the Year for the second straight season. Only the second Cal pitcher to receive the award after Kristina Thorson in 2006, Henderson is also a finalist for USA Softball Collegiate Player of the Year. She has a 1.22 ERA to go with her 29-2 record this season. In 211.2 innings of work, Henderson has struck out 249 batters and is holding opponents to a .191 batting average. The Elk Grove, Calif., native has been named Pac-12 Pitcher of the Week five times this spring.

Pac-12 Freshman of the Year -- Stephany LaRosa, UCLA

The fifth Bruin in Conference history and first since 2005 to earn Freshman of the Year, LaRosa leads UCLA and ranks second in the Pac-12 with a .455 batting average. She also ranks among the top players in the league with an .815 slugging percentage, 77 hits, 60 RBI and 16 home runs. LaRosa, who hails from Diamond Bar, Calif., earned Pac-12 Player of the Week and USA Softball National Player of the Week on April 17 after hitting .571 with 12 RBI, three home runs and seven runs in series victories over Stanford and Washington.

Pac-12 Defensive Player of the Year -- Ashley Hansen, Stanford

Hansen is the third Cardinal to be named Defensive Player of the Year after Laura Lappin (2005-06) and Rosey Neill (2008-10). The Chandler, Ariz., native has a .960 fielding percentage with 86 putouts. A four-time All-Pac-12 selection, she leads Stanford and ranks sixth in the Conference with 107 assists. The 2011 USA Softball Collegiate Player of the Year and Pac-12 Player of the Year, Hansen holds the Stanford career records with 79 doubles and 18 triples.

Pac-12 Coach of the Year -- Diane Ninemire, California

This is the second Coach of the Year award for Ninemire after winning in 1991. In her 25th season with the Golden Bears, Ninemire led the team to its first outright Conference championship since 1987 and only its second overall. Cal tied for the Pac-10 championship in 2005. Her squad has spent eight consecutive weeks atop both national polls. The Bears have also been No. 1 in at least one poll for 13th weeks. Cal is making its 28th NCAA Tournament appearance and 27th straight. Ninemire earned career win No. 1,100 on April 20, making her the 12th coach in the history of collegiate softball and sixth in Division I to reach the mark.

2012 PAC-12 ALL-CONFERENCE TEAMS**First Team**

Name	Position	Year	School
Valerie Arioto (3)	UTIL	RS Sr.	California
B.B. Bates	OF	Jr.	UCLA
Katelyn Boyd (3)	SS	Sr.	Arizona State
Dallas Escobedo (2)	P	So.	Arizona State
Ashley Hansen (4)	SS	Sr.	Stanford
Andrea Harrison (3)	OF/1B	Sr.	UCLA
Jolene Henderson (2)	P	Jr.	California
Kaitlin Inglesby	P/DP	So.	Washington
Alix Johnson	OF	So.	Arizona State
Stephany LaRosa	3B	Fr.	UCLA
Annie Lockwood	OF/1B	Sr.	Arizona State
Jessica Moore (2)	P	Jr.	Oregon
Samantha Pappas (2)	OF	Jr.	Oregon
Shelby Pendley	SS	Fr.	Arizona
Kimi Pohlman (3)	OF	Sr.	Washington
Jamia Reid (3)	OF	Sr.	California
Jenna Rich	2B	Jr.	Stanford
Elizabeth Santana	SS	Jr.	Oregon State
Katie Schroeder (2)	OF	RS Sr.	UCLA
Hanna Winter	INF	Fr.	Stanford

(2) - Two-time All-Conference selection

(3) - Three-time All-Conference selection

(4) - Four-time All-Conference selection

Second Team

Name	Position	Year	School
Hillary Bach	P	Sr.	Arizona State
Samantha Camuso	DP	RS Sr.	UCLA
Elizabeth Caporuscio	OF	Fr.	Arizona State
Kelsey Chambers	SS	Sr.	Oregon
Brigitte Del Ponte	3B	Jr.	Arizona
Kaylan Howard	2B	Jr.	Oregon
Lini Koria	C/DP	Sr.	Arizona
Leah White	OF	Fr.	Stanford
Nikia Williams	UTIL	Sr.	Washington
Hallie Wilson	OF	Fr.	Arizona

Honorable Mention

Jenna Becerra, STAN; Mary Claire Brenner, OSU; Maya Burns, STAN; Courtney Ceo, ORE; Kailee Cuico, ORE; Frani Echavarría, CAL; Katelyn Elliott, UTAH; Amber Freeman, ASU; Teagan Gerhart, STAN; Dani Gilmore, OSU; Erin Guzy, OSU; Paige Hall, OSU; Jessica Hall, UCLA; Talor Haro, ASU; Victoria Hayward, WASH; Danielle Henderson, CAL; Whitney Holm, UTAH; Kelsey Hoopiaina, UTAH; Breana Kostreba, CAL; Kylee Lahners, WASH; Generra Nielson, UTAH; Christie Nieto, ORE; Tia Palauni, UTAH; Alexa Peterson, ORE; Jessica Spigner, ARIZ; Bailey Wigness, ASU; Jace Williams, CAL; Dani Yudin, UCLA.

2012 PAC-12 ALL-FRESHMAN TEAM**First Team**

Name	Position	School
Elizabeth Caporuscio	OF	Arizona State
Ally Carda	P/1B	UCLA
Cheyenne Cordes	INF/OF	California
Amber Freeman	C	Arizona State
Dani Gilmore	OF/C	Oregon State
Danielle Henderson	3B/C	California
Breana Kostreba	INF	California
Stephany LaRosa	3B	UCLA
Shelby Pendley	SS	Arizona
Haley Steele	3B	Arizona State
Janie Takeda	OF	Oregon
Leah White	OF	Stanford
Hallie Wilson	OF	Arizona
Hanna Winter	INF	Stanford

Honorable Mention

Kate Dickman, UTAH; Aryn Feickert, OSU; Kiara Garcia, OSU; Chelsea Goodacre, ARIZ; Sara Goodrum, ORE; Karissa Hovinga, ORE; Kylee Lahners, WASH; Cassandra Roulund, STAN; Kimberlee Souza, WASH; Chelsea Suitos, ARIZ; Nyree White, STAN.

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