

# athletic tradition

Since embarking on its first athletic competition in 1892, Washington State University has compiled a rich tradition of athletic excellence over the ensuing 112 years.

The school has won two NCAA national team titles, in addition to nearly 70 NCAA individual titles.

WSU teams have reached NCAA postseason play nearly 40 times. The football team has made nine Bowl appearances (including four Rose Bowls), winning five times. In addition, the school has garnered over 350 individual All-America selections in its history.

As recently as the 2002-03 season, WSU was represented by 10 of its 17 sports programs in NCAA postseason competition.



**Whitney Evans**  
2003 NCAA high jump champion; eight-time All-American.



**John Olerud**  
1988 NCAA Player of the Year, only pitcher in NCAA history to win 15 games and hit 20 or more home runs (15-0, 23 homers in 1988) in the same season.



**Bernard Lagat**  
2000 (Bronze medal) & 2004 (Silver Medal) Olympian, NCAA Indoor and Outdoor champion, NCAA Indoor Male Athlete of the Year, Pac-10 Athlete of the Year.



**Sarah Silvernail**  
Two-time All-American, 1996 Pacific-10 Conference Player of the Year, Pac-10 Player of the Week honors six times in her career.



1941 basketball team (NCAA runner up)



2003 Rose Bowl team

1998 Rose Bowl team



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**W**ashington State men's basketball made an impression on the national landscape during the 2004-05 season.

The season was highlighted by a 70-63 upset win over No. 11 Arizona in Tucson, Jan. 29. WSU snapped a 20-game losing streak at Arizona and a 38-game skid overall against the Wildcats. In addition, the Cougars halted a 26-game road losing streak against ranked opponents and a 48-game losing streak overall to top 25 opponents.

The basketball team finished sixth in the Pacific-10 Conference, its best finish in conference play since the 2000-01 season. Senior guard **Thomas Kelati** was named to the 2005 All-Pacific-10 Conference First Team becoming the first Cougar since 1998 and 13th player in WSU history to earn such an honor.

The Cougar football team has registered four 10-win seasons in the last eight years, including three in a row from 2001-03 with WSU securing wins at the Sun Bowl (2001) and the Holiday Bowl (2003). In addition, the team earned a berth in the Rose Bowl twice (1998, 2003). WSU capped the 2004 season with a 28-25 victory over intrastate rival Washington in the Apple Cup.

A trio of players -- **Hamza Abdullah**, **Calvin Armstrong** and **Karl Paymah**—were selected in the 2005 NFL Draft.

Likewise, baseball had three players—**Brady Everett**, **James Freeman** and **Dane Renkert**—selected in the Major League Baseball Draft with Everett earning a selection to the All-Pac-10 Baseball First Team.

**Tyson Byers** finished fifth in the pole vault at the NCAA Championships to earn All-America status and **Danny Wolf** was named to the 2004 Men's Cross Country All-Pac-10 Second Team.

Golf hosted the Pac-10 Championships and was led by sophomore **Kevin Chen**, who posted a top 25 finish at the event. During the summer, **Jordan Madison** won the Pacific Northwest Amateur Championship, an event previously won by Tiger Woods in 1994. Madison's victory marked the second consecutive year a Cougar has captured the championship (David Fern).



## All-American was a consistent term applied to Washington State women's athletes during the 2004-05 season.

**Anastasia Kostina** earned a National Golf Coaches Association All-American selection marking the third consecutive year WSU has been represented on the NGCA All-American Team (Kim Welch 2003 and '04). Kostina's season was highlighted by a victory at the Stanford Pepsi Intercollegiate Oct. 17 earning her a *GolfWeek* Player of the Week honor in the publication's Oct. 23 issue.

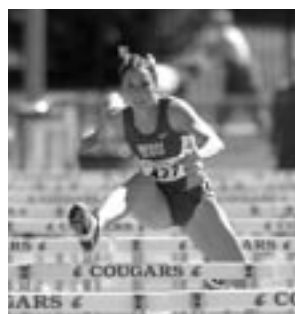


Anastasia Kostina



Jody Thomas

Rowing's **Jody Thomas** earned a spot on the Collegiate Rowing Coaches Association All-America Team becoming the third Cougar to be named an All-American in the program's history. Thomas competed as a member of the Cougars' varsity eight crew which was ranked 19th in the final 2005 USRowing/Collegiate Rowing Coaches Association NCAA Division I Varsity Eight Coaches Poll.



Julie Pickler

Track and Field had trio of student-athletes earned the All-America title. **Diana Pickler** became an indoor All-American in the pentathlon and in the spring joined pole vaulter **Tamara Diles** and fellow heptathlete **Julie Pickler** as All-Americans at the NCAA Outdoor Track & Field Championships. In addition, Julie Pickler was the Pac-10 heptathlon champion while **Robin Mikesch** won the conference high jump title.



Kate Benz

On the hardwood, **Kate Benz** made history by becoming the first Cougar to lead the Pacific-10 Conference in rebounding. Benz averaged 9.1 rebounds a game to end the season with a .8 advantage over Oregon's Cathrine Kraayeveld for Pac-10 superiority on the boards.

In soccer, **Alix Rustrum** and **Katie Hultin** were named to the All-Pac-10 second team while **Cailan McCutchan** earned all-conference honorable mention honors. Soccer's season was highlighted with a 3-2 win over No. 12 Washington.



Alix Rustrum

Swimming finished the season with its first dual meet winning season in three years (4-3). Eight swimmers won a total of 40 individual races while 11 individuals scored at the Pac-10 Championships.

After leading the women's tennis team with 14 dual match wins, freshman **Ekaterina Burduli** finished No. 69 in the Intercollegiate Tennis Association's final rankings. Burduli was 15-10 overall, including 14-9 in dual matches. All but one of her dual match victories came at the No. 1 position.



Ekaterina Burduli

Volleyball capped its season with a five-game upset win over No. 6 USC. **Jennifer Todd** was named All-Pac-10 honorable mention. **Stacey Holbrook's** 395 digs was fourth-best in school history for a single season.



Jane Copland



Stacey Holbrook