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GYMNASTICS



BYU MEET NOTES

NCAA REGIONALS

DENVER, CO
APRIL 2, 2010



BYU GYMNASTICS

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2011 Schedule/Results

Date	Opponent	Time/Results
Jan. 8	Denver	2nd/193.225
Jan. 14	Utah State	1st/193.075
Jan. 21	Kent State	T-1st/194.775
Jan. 29	Iowa St./Utah St.	T-1st/194.925
Feb. 4	LSU	2nd/193.075
Feb. 11	Texas Women's	1st/195.200
Feb. 18	Arkansas	1st/195.100
Feb. 26	Arizona	2nd/195.150
Mar. 4	Auburn	2nd/194.675
Mar. 7	Southern Utah	3rd/194.250
Mar. 11	Arizona/NH/TWU	2nd/195.300
Mar. 18	University of Utah	2nd/195.80
April 2	NCAA Regionals	
April 15-17	NCAA Championships	

* **Bold** denotes home meets

Quick Facts

Location: Provo, Utah
Enrollment: 29,783
Nickname: Cougars
Colors: Dark Blue and White
President: Dr. Cecil O. Samuelson
Arena: Smith Fieldhouse
2010 Regular Season Record: 5-11
2010 Regional Finish: 6th
2010 NCAA Finish: 26th

Head Coach: Brad Cattermole
Record at School (years): 193-188-3 (22)
Assistant Coaches: Dawn Cattermole and Shauna Mertz

Letterwinners Returning/Lost: 9/6

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NCAA Regionals

Location: Marriott Center, Provo, Utah

Date: April 2, 2011

Live Stats: denverpioneers.com

Live Video: None

TV: None

BYU Gymnastics to Compete in NCAA Regionals

PROVO, Utah (Mar. 21, 2011) – The NCAA announced Monday that BYU will compete in the Denver National Collegiate Women's Gymnastics Championship regional. The regional will take place April 2nd on the University of Denver campus at 6 p.m. in Magness Arena.

"We're looking forward to Denver," BYU head coach Brad Cattermole. "It's close and we've been there before so it's an easy trip. I think everyone is excited and it should be a great trip."

The Cougars will face Florida, Arkansas, Boise State, Denver and Arizona. The top two teams from each regional will receive an automatic berth to the National Championships in Cleveland, Ohio, April 15-17, hosted by Kent State University and the Greater Cleveland Sports Commission.

Event winners at each regional will also have the opportunity to advance to the national championships if they are not part of a qualifying team or an all-around qualifier.

2010 BYU Cougars

Name	Ht.	Yr.	Hometown
Megan Bain	5-2	Fr.	Draper, Utah
Holland Davis	5-5	Jr.	Scottsdale, Ariz.
Natalie Eyre	5-5	Jr.	Provo, UT
KayCee Gassaway	5-3	Fr.	Vancouver, Wash.
Jordan Hayden	5-2	Fr.	Broomfield, Colo.
Madeleine Johnson	5-3	Sr.	Park City, UT
Krysten Koval	5-3	Jr.	Gun Barrel City, TX
Jennifer Lezeu	5-2	Jr.	Ontario, Canada
Mickell Merrell	5-2	Jr.	Pleasant Grove, UT
Haylee Rollins	5-2	So.	Phoenix, Ariz.
Jessica Villegas	5-2	Sr.	Gilbert, Ariz.
Raquel Willman	5-3	Fr.	Phoenix, Ariz.
Sarah Yandow	5-4	So.	Orem, Utah

Head Coach- Brad Cattermole (23nd year)

Assistant Coach- Dawn Cattermole (23nd year)

Assistant Coach- Shauna Mertz (17th year)

Volunteer Asst. Coach- Jimmy Pratt

Trainers- Carolyn Billings, Emily Hansen

Head Coach: Brad Cattermole

Brad Cattermole begins his 23th full season as the head coach of BYU gymnastics. Since becoming the head coach, he has guided the Cougars to eight National Championship Tournament Appearances and 19 NCAA Regional berths, missing Regionals just once since becoming coach. Seven gymnasts have earned 17 NCAA All-America awards under his tutelage.

Cattermole has quietly built the Cougar program into a respected national power. In 2004 the Cougar squad scored a school record 198.025 at Utah State. That same year, the team also set school highs of 49.625 on vault, 49.675 on beam and 49.675 on floor.

Cattermole competed on the 1971 BYU men's gymnastics team. Born in Stormlake, Iowa, he is married to Dawn Cattermole, an assistant coach at BYU.

- 23th season at BYU
- Eight NCAA National Championship Appearances
- 19 NCAA Regionals Appearances
- 17 NCAA All-Americans
- Coached Four 10.0 gymnasts
- Ranked nationally in the top 20 ten of the last 17 years

Tentative BYU Lineup:

Vault

- 1 Mickell Merrell
- 2 Megan Bain
- 3 Jennifer Lezeu
- 4 KayCee Gassaway
- 5 Natalie Eyre
- 6 Haylee Rollins
- Ex Holland Davis

Beam

- 1 Madeleine Johnson
- 2 Megan Bain
- 3 Raquel Willman
- 4 Natalie Eyre
- 5 Jennifer Lezeu
- 6 Krysten Koval

Bars

- 1 KayCee Gassaway
- 2 Raquel Willman
- 3 Jennifer Lezeu
- 4 Madeleine Johnson
- 5 Haylee Rollins
- 6 Natalie Eyre
- Ex Sarah Yandow

Floor

- 1 Megan Bain
- 2 Raquel Willman
- 3 Jessica Villegas
- 4 Mickell Merrell
- 5 Jennifer Lezeu
- 6 Haylee Rollins
- Ex Krysten Koval

Meet Notes...

- *BYU began the season 10-2-2 but has since suffered six tough losses.*
- *The Cougars competed in NCAA Regionals last year placing 6th out of 6 teams with a team score 193.400.*
- *Jennifer Lezeu has competed in all-around in the past four meets for BYU, giving the Cougars their first all-around competitor this season. Her best all-around score coming in her first appearance against Auburn where she posted a 39.050.*

Cougar 2011 Season Outlook:

A new year for the BYU women's gymnastics team brings a new season, new faces and a renewed desire to show the college gymnastics world what they can do. After a trip to NCAA Regionals in Los Angeles last season where the Cougars finished sixth, BYU anticipates this season bringing more success.

"We should be a little bit better in every event than we were last year," BYU head coach Brad Cattermole said. "I think if we compete to our capabilities and do our best in every meet we can beat anyone out there."

BYU will be led by seniors Jessica Villegas, who the team voted a captain, and Madeleine Johnson, who has been consistent over the past two seasons competing on bars, beam and floor.

"There's always the question of how the seniors on a team will step up," Cattermole said. "But we've got two good seniors and a good group of juniors so we've got a good group of leaders. Time will tell if they will step up and take charge, if they do then that will definitely help us."

The juniors Cattermole refers to all came in together as freshman in 2009, joining a team that was incredibly young and injury plagued. Natalie Eyre, Krysten Koval, Jennifer Lezeu and Mickell Merrell were immediately thrown into the BYU lineup.

Although the 2009 season was a struggle for the team, the freshmen showed great maturity and learned a lot. Today, as juniors they are experienced and ready to step up for the Cougars as upperclassmen. Eyre has even been voted a team captain this season.

"Both Natalie and Krysten started to show consistency at the end of last season," said Cattermole. "They made some mistakes along the way but they were capable of doing better. They worked hard over the summer to upgrade where they could become more consistent."

Lezeu is another gymnast that Cattermole believes has a promising future this season.

"Jenn is a really hard worker," Cattermole added. "And she's caught on more to how college gymnastics works so she'll help us out a lot."

Also coming in as a freshman in 2009 was Holland Davis. However, due to an injury suffered on vault, Davis has sat out the last two seasons. Still, Cattermole is looking for big things from Davis.

"Holland is working really hard," Cattermole said. "And she could help us out a lot on as many as three events. Hope

fully she'll regain her old form quickly and add consistency because I think she'll do a great job."

The team returns two sophomores-Sarah Yandow, who competed for the Cougars on vault last season, and Haylee Rollins.

"Haylee was one who came out very strong last season," Cattermole said. "She's improved her bar routine and added a better dismount. Her old dismount wasn't bad but it's improved now."

BYU's squad will feature five new freshmen: Megan Bain, Leslie Bell, KayCee Gassaway, JoJo Hayden and Raquel Willman.

"All the new freshmen can help us in more than one event," Cattermole said. "These freshmen are ready to come right into the lineup. They just need to continue to improve, see how college works and they'll help us out all over the place."

The Cougars' schedule will feature many gymnastics power programs as they face eight teams who were ranked in the nation's top 25 at the conclusion of last season. These teams are in order of last year's rankings: No. 9 Arkansas, No. 10 Utah, No. 11 LSU, No. 16 Auburn, No. 17 Iowa State, No. 18 Southern Utah, No. 21 Arizona and No. 22 Denver. They will also face in-state rival Utah State, Kent State and Texas Women's University.

"The advantage to this is that they will see very tough competition," Cattermole explained. "And we'll learn how to hang with that kind of competition so that when we get to Regionals or Nationals it doesn't surprise anyone because it's what you've been competing against every weekend so you just go in and do your thing."

2011 Season Stats

Date	Opponent	Vault	Bars	Beam	Floor	Overall
1/8	Denver/Georgia/AFA	48.550	48.750	47.400	48.525	193.225
1/14	Utah St/Arizona	48.475	48.600	47.550	48.450	193.075
1/21	Kent St/GWU/Oshkosh	48.825	49.050	48.250	48.650	194.775
1/29	Iowa St/USU/SUU	48.200	48.975	48.950	48.800	194.925
2/4	LSU	48.675	48.400	48.625	48.050	193.750
2/11	TWU	48.800	48.825	48.850	48.725	195.200
2/18	Arkansas	48.675	48.875	48.675	48.875	195.100
2/26	Arizona	49.175	48.425	48.850	48.700	195.150
3/4	Auburn	48.875	48.750	48.175	48.875	194.675
3/7	SUU	49.075	48.350	48.125	48.700	194.250
3/11	Arizona/NH/TWU	49.100	48.975	48.425	48.800	195.300
3/18	University of Utah	48.975	49.275	49.050	48.500	195.800

2011 Individual Season Bests

Gymnast	Vault	Bars	Beam	Floor	All-Around
Megan Bain	9.800	--	9.825	9.775	--
Holland Davis	--	--	--	--	--
Natalie Eyre	9.925	9.850	9.875	--	--
KayCee Gassaway	9.875	9.750	--	--	--
Jordan Hayden	--	--	--	--	--
Madeleine Johnson	--	9.900	9.750	--	--
Krysten Koval	9.750	--	9.900	--	--
Jennifer Lezeu	--	9.800	9.825	9.825	--
Mickell Merrell	9.800	--	--	9.850	--
Haylee Rollins	9.875	9.900	--	9.875	--
Jessica Villegas	--	--	9.525	9.850	--
Raquel Willman	--	9.875	9.800	9.725	--
Sarah Yandow	9.750	9.800	--	--	--
Team	49.175	49.275	49.050	48.875	195.800

2010 Individual Statistics:

Megan Bain

- A freshman competing on three events for the Cougars

2011 Season Stats

Meet	Vault	Bars	Beam	Floor	A-A
Denver/GA/AFA	9.575	--	9.525	9.700	--
Utah St/Arizona	--	--	8.975	9.600	--
Kent St/GWU/Osh	--	--	9.675	9.725	--
ISU/USU/SUU	--	--	9.775	9.675	--
LSU	--	--	9.700	9.675	--
TWU	--	--	9.725	9.750	--
Arkansas	--	--	9.725	9.775	--
Arizona	9.800	--	9.700	9.775	--
Auburn	9.750	--	9.825	9.800	--
SUU	9.725	--	9.575	9.225	--
Arizona/NH/TWU	9.750	--	9.600	9.775	--
Utah	9.750	--	9.725	9.225	--
Career High	9.800	--	9.825	9.775	--

Holland Davis

- Did not compete in 2010 due to injury

2011 Season Stats

Meet	Vault	Bars	Beam	Floor	A-A
Denver/GA/AFA	--	--	--	--	--
Utah St/Arizona	--	--	--	--	--
Kent St/GWU/Osh	--	--	--	--	--
ISU/USU/SUU	--	--	--	--	--
LSU	--	--	--	--	--
TWU	--	--	--	--	--
Arkansas	--	--	--	--	--
Arizona	--	--	--	--	--
Auburn	--	--	--	--	--
SUU	--	--	--	--	--
Arizona/NH/TWU	--	--	--	--	--
Utah	--	--	--	--	--
Career High	9.725	9.550	--	9.375	--

Natalie Eyre

- Team Captain
- Currently ranked 9th on vault, 16th on uneven bars and 18th on balance beam in the North Central region.

2011 Season Stats

Meet	Vault	Bars	Beam	Floor	A-A
Denver/GA/AFA	9.800	9.850	9.000	--	--
Utah St/Arizona	9.725	9.725	8.900	--	--
Kent St/GWU/Osh	9.725	9.800	9.575	--	--
ISU/USU/SUU	9.675	9.825	9.650	--	--
LSU	9.725	9.750	9.725	--	--
TWU	9.800	9.625	9.800	--	--
Arkansas	9.825	9.750	9.800	--	--
Arizona	9.875	9.150	9.775	--	--
Auburn	--	9.725	9.700	--	--
SUU	9.850	9.800	9.700	--	--
Arizona/NH/TWU	9.925	9.800	9.700	--	--
Utah	9.825	9.850	9.875	--	--
Career High	9.925	9.875	9.875	--	--

Madeleine Johnson

- Competed in all-around five times as a sophomore
- A talented photographer
- Currently 24th on uneven bars regionally

2011 Season Stats

Meet	Vault	Bars	Beam	Floor	A-A
Denver/GA/AFA	--	9.750	--	--	--
Utah St/Arizona	--	9.700	--	--	--
Kent St/GWU/Osh	--	9.825	--	--	--
ISU/USU/SUU	--	9.075	--	--	--
LSU	--	9.700	9.700	--	--
TWU	--	9.800	9.750	--	--
Arkansas	--	9.725	9.650	--	--
Arizona	--	9.875	9.750	--	--
Auburn	--	9.825	9.050	--	--
SUU	--	9.075	9.525	--	--
Arizona/NH/TWU	--	9.750	9.625	--	--
Utah	--	9.900	9.725	--	--
Career High	9.600	9.900	9.825	9.825	38.775

KayCee Gassaway

- Ranked 13th regionally on vault

2011 Season Stats

Meet	Vault	Bars	Beam	Floor	A-A
Denver/GA/AFA	--	--	--	--	--
Utah St/Arizona	9.700	--	--	--	--
Kent St/GWU/Osh	9.500	--	--	--	--
ISU/USU/SUU	9.575	--	--	--	--
LSU	9.700	--	--	--	--
TWU	9.725	--	--	--	--
Arkansas	9.675	--	--	--	--
Arizona	9.825	--	--	--	--
Auburn	9.875	9.725	--	--	--
SUU	9.825	9.050	--	--	--
Arizona/NH/TWU	9.875	9.750	--	--	--
Utah	9.825	9.750	--	--	--
Career High	9.875	9.750	--	--	--

Krysten Koval

- Currently 20nd in region on beam
- Had an intense elbow surgery in 2009

2011 Season Stats

Meet	Vault	Bars	Beam	Floor	A-A
Denver/GA/AFA	9.700	--	9.475	--	--
Utah St/Arizona	9.675	--	9.725	--	--
Kent St/GWU/Osh	9.750	--	9.750	--	--
ISU/USU/SUU	9.600	--	9.875	--	--
LSU	9.725	--	9.400	--	--
TWU	9.675	--	9.775	--	--
Arkansas	9.650	--	9.725	--	--
Arizona	--	--	9.800	--	--
Auburn	--	--	8.500	--	--
SUU	--	--	9.625	--	--
Arizona/NH/TWU	--	--	9.725	--	--
Utah	--	--	9.900	--	--
Career High	9.875	9.650	9.900	--	--

Jordan Hayden

- Has not competed thus far this season

2011 Season Stats

Meet	Vault	Bars	Beam	Floor	A-A
Denver/GA/AFA	--	--	--	--	--
Utah St/Arizona	--	--	--	--	--
Kent St/GWU/Osh	--	--	--	--	--
ISU/USU/SUU	--	--	--	--	--
LSU	--	--	--	--	--
TWU	--	--	--	--	--
Arkansas	--	--	--	--	--
Arizona	--	--	--	--	--
Auburn	--	--	--	--	--
SUU	--	--	--	--	--
Arizona/NH/TWU	--	--	--	--	--
Utah	--	--	--	--	--
Career High	--	--	--	--	--

Jennifer Lezeu

- Currently ranked 21st in North Central region on beam
- Her father, Adrian, played professional soccer for Romania

2011 Season Stats

Meet	Vault	Bars	Beam	Floor	A-A
Denver/GA/AFA	--	9.725	9.650	9.700	--
Utah St/Arizona	--	9.700	9.625	9.775	--
Kent St/GWU/Osh	--	9.800	9.575	9.800	--
ISU/USU/SUU	--	9.750	9.825	9.750	--
LSU	--	9.675	9.775	9.600	--
TWU	--	9.725	9.800	9.825	--
Arkansas	--	9.800	9.775	9.800	--
Arizona	--	9.725	9.825	9.750	--
Auburn	9.775	9.700	9.875	9.700	39.050
SUU	9.725	9.825	9.650	9.775	38.975
Arizona/NH/TWU	9.700	9.725	9.075	9.750	38.250
Utah	9.650	9.750	9.075	9.200	37.675
Career High	9.775	9.825	9.875	9.875	37.525

Mickell Merrell

- Was Utah Level 10 all-around state champion twice
- Currently 19th on vault in the North Central region

2011 Season Stats

Meet	Vault	Bars	Beam	Floor	A-A
Denver/GA/AFA	9.650	--	--	9.600	--
Utah St/Arizona	9.625	--	--	9.725	--
Kent St/GWU/Osh	9.775	--	--	9.700	--
ISU/USU/SUU	9.675	--	--	9.700	--
LSU	9.800	--	--	8.575	--
TWU	9.800	--	--	9.800	--
Arkansas	9.725	--	--	9.725	--
Arizona	9.800	--	--	9.725	--
Auburn	9.125	--	--	9.675	--
SUU	9.800	--	--	9.800	--
Arizona/NH/TWU	9.675	--	--	9.700	--
Utah	9.725	--	--	9.850	--
Career High	9.800	--	--	9.850	--

Raquel Willman

- Is best friends with Haylee Rollins as they both trained together at Phoenix Gymnastics Academy.
- Ranked 25th regionally on uneven bars

2011 Season Stats

Meet	Vault	Bars	Beam	Floor	A-A
Denver/GA/AFA	--	9.050	9.400	9.450	--
Utah St/Arizona	--	9.725	9.700	9.650	--
Kent St/GWU/Osh	--	9.750	9.675	9.700	--
ISU/USU/SUU	--	9.825	9.800	9.700	--
LSU	--	9.525	9.725	9.575	--
TWU	--	9.775	9.625	9.700	--
Arkansas	--	9.800	9.600	9.725	--
Arizona	--	9.250	9.500	9.625	--
Auburn	--	9.725	9.725	9.700	--
SUU	--	9.775	9.575	9.650	--
Arizona/NH/TWU	--	9.825	9.675	9.725	--
Utah	--	9.875	9.800	9.725	--
Career High	--	9.875	9.800	9.725	--

Haylee Rollins

- Ranked 7th in the North Central region on vault, 16th on uneven bars and 18th on balance beam.
- Trained at Phoenix Gymnastics Academy with Raquel Willman and the two are best friends.

2011 Season Stats

Meet	Vault	Bars	Beam	Floor	A-A
Denver/GA/AFA	9.750	9.725	--	9.775	--
Utah St/Arizona	9.750	9.750	--	9.700	--
Kent St/GWU/Osh	9.825	9.875	--	9.725	--
ISU/USU/SUU	9.625	9.775	--	9.875	--
LSU	9.725	9.725	--	9.700	--
TWU	9.750	9.800	--	9.650	--
Arkansas	9.800	9.775	--	9.775	--
Arizona	9.875	9.875	--	9.775	--
Auburn	9.775	9.750	--	9.850	--
SUU	9.875	9.875	--	9.675	--
Arizona/NH/TWU	9.850	9.800	--	9.775	--
Utah	9.850	9.900	--	9.850	--
Career High	9.875	9.900	--	9.875	--

Sarah Yandow

- Won the Level 10 Oregon State Championships
- Is competing on two events for the Cougars this year after only competing on vault last year

2011 Season Stats

Meet	Vault	Bars	Beam	Floor	A-A
Denver/GA/AFA	9.650	9.700	--	--	--
Utah St/Arizona	9.625	9.700	--	--	--
Kent St/GWU/Osh	9.750	9.725	--	--	--
ISU/USU/SUU	9.625	9.800	--	--	--
LSU	9.600	9.550	--	--	--
TWU	9.725	9.725	--	--	--
Arkansas	9.625	9.750	--	--	--
Arizona	9.625	9.700	--	--	--
Auburn	9.700	--	--	--	--
SUU	--	--	--	--	--
Arizona/NH/TWU	--	--	--	--	--
Utah	--	--	--	--	--
Career High	9.750	9.800	--	--	--

Jessica Villegas

- 23rd regionally on floor exercise
- Team Captain

2011 Season Stats

Meet	Vault	Bars	Beam	Floor	A-A
Denver/GA/AFA	--	--	9.350	9.750	--
Utah St/Arizona	--	--	9.525	9.400	--
Kent St/GWU/Osh	--	--	9.200	--	--
ISU/USU/SUU	--	--	--	9.775	--
LSU	--	--	--	9.500	--
TWU	--	--	--	9.650	--
Arkansas	--	--	--	9.800	--
Arizona	--	--	--	9.675	--
Auburn	--	--	--	9.825	--
SUU	--	--	--	9.800	--
Arizona/NH/TWU	--	--	--	9.775	--
Utah	--	--	--	9.850	--
Career High	--	--	9.750	9.850	--

2010 Season Review

The 2010 BYU women's gymnastics team will always be remembered as a team that bounced back after adversity, who challenged themselves, and overcame injuries to achieve success. The Cougars saw the fruits of their labor as they battled back to a No. 26 National ranking and qualified for the NCAA Regionals after scoring a season-high 195.825 in their last meet of the season hosted by the University of Utah.

"When all was said and done I was really pleased with this team," BYU head coach Brad Cattermole said. "We had basically the same team we had last year but this year they were healthy and we showed what we are capable of doing. We were on the verge of greatness several times this season as the team continued to get better with each meet."

BYU was led by second-year senior co-captains, Megan Donehue and McKell Merkley, while also benefiting from the veteran leadership of Danielle Goldman and Kaylee Gallup, also seniors. Despite a season plagued with injuries in 2009, these gymnasts knew what it was like to succeed and gave their all in order to provide success for their team. They used their combined experience to guide the team throughout the year and finish the season with an appearance at the NCAA Regionals in Los Angeles, Calif.

"They were all great seniors and that's the part of this team that we are going to miss the most next year," said Cattermole. "You can't ask for much more than what they gave us. They provided this team with so much more than just good gymnastics because they were great leaders and you can't undervalue good leadership."

It also became clear, in the developing season, that there were several up-and-coming stars on the Cougar roster. Junior Madeleine Johnson has already shown her leadership capabilities and skill, competing on three of the four events in the last two seasons. Sophomore Natalie Eyre, who returned from an injury last season, posted huge scores for BYU throughout the season and showed her ability to perform consistently for the Cougars. Freshman Haylee Rollins was also successful for BYU, competing on three events. Rollins shows tremendous promise for the future of the Cougars as she hit every routine throughout the last season with the exception of one fall on uneven bars.

"With each practice and each meet our routines got tighter, better and more precise," Cattermole said. "This was a fun team to work with because they tried hard every day."

Although BYU was not as successful as they had hoped they might be at Regionals, where they finished sixth with a final team score of 193.400, there was much to be proud of during the 2010 season including a victory over two top 26 ranked opponents, Boise State and Arizona State, at home in the Smith Fieldhouse on senior night.

Vault

The vault was the Cougars' most consistent event in 2010 as they scored within one-point range throughout the season, 48.100 being their season low and 49.050 being their season best at Utah State. Sophomore Eyre gave BYU its highest score on vault at Boise State with a 9.900. Eyre also topped 9.800 seven times throughout the season.

Seven different Cougars competed on vault throughout the year. After an injury on the vault, Donehue, who had provided BYU with solid vaults throughout the year, retired from the event and Gallup stepped in to

2010 Season Review (cont.):

provide the Cougars with valuable scores including a personal-best 9.800 at Southern Utah. Goldman also helped lead BYU with six scores of 9.800 or higher.

Sophomore Krysten Koval battled injury throughout the season to help the Cougars in the event and freshmen, Rollins and Sarah Yandow, also posted consistent scores for the Cougars throughout the year.

Uneven Bars

The uneven bars were arguably BYU's strongest event this season. The Cougars saw high scores throughout the year and, in Los Angeles, it was the bar lineup that posted the highest event score on the night for BYU. The Cougars posted a season-best 49.075 in their final regular season meet at Utah.

Johnson received the team's highest mark of the season on the event with a 9.900 at home against Boise State and Arizona State.

Donehue led the team on the event throughout the year, only missing one meet after an injury on vault earlier in the evening, with seven scores of 9.800 or higher. She scored a solid 9.800, the team's highest score of the meet, on the bars at Regionals. Merkley, BYU's bar specialist, also contributed three scores above 9.800 including a season-high 9.850 at Southern Utah.

Balance Beam

In an event that many consider the most difficult, the Cougars posted their highest team event score of the year against Utah with a 49.175. Seniors Donehue and Gallup led the way for BYU on the event, posting season-highs of 9.900 and 9.875, respectively.

Donehue once again scored a 9.800 or higher seven times throughout the season on beam while Gallup, who began her career as a beam specialist, scored a

9.800 or higher five times in the 2010 season. Johnson, Eyre and sophomore Jennifer Lezeu also showed their ability to compete on beam throughout the season and will be looked to for leadership on the event next season.

Floor Exercise

The Cougars were led on floor exercise throughout the year by Goldman, who scored a career-high 9.850 three times throughout the season, and Lezeu, who posted BYU's season-best on the event with a 9.875, in the home meet against Denver and Utah State. It was also against Denver and USU that the Cougars scored their highest floor score of the season with a combined 49.075.

This event shows great promise for the future as Goldman was the only senior to compete on the floor for BYU. Rollins and Johnson, along with floor specialists Mickell Merrill and Jessica Villegas, also contributed as part of the lineup.

All-Around

Goldman was the only Cougar gymnast to compete in the all-around and, even then, Goldman only competed in the all-around once against Utah State (after a Koval injury in warm-ups) scoring a 38.925. Coach Cattermole prefers to have gymnasts only compete on their best events, which results in fewer all-around competitors, but also tends to better the team score. This year with few injuries, Cattermole was able to pick and choose which athletes he wanted to compete on each event throughout the season.

Why Pink? A Tribute To Gaye Merrill

PROVO, Utah (Jan. 26, 2011) – The BYU women’s gymnastics team will wear pink leotards throughout the 2011 season in honor of their former athletic trainer, the late Gaye Merrill, who passed away May 24, 2010, following a valiant fight with cancer. The team decided to dedicate their season to Merrill, a woman whose influence will not be soon forgotten.

“Gaye was one of those people that there wasn’t anyone who didn’t learn to be better by being around her,” BYU head coach Brad Cattermole said. “She made everyone want to be better. There wasn’t anyone that didn’t like her. Everyone loved Gaye.”

During her nearly 30 years at BYU, Merrill was involved in both teaching and clinical work. Although she enjoyed being in the classroom, her first love was helping the hundreds of BYU student-athletes she served through the years.

“We are saddened by the loss of our dear friend and colleague Gaye Merrill,” BYU director of athletics Tom Holmoe said at the time of Merrill’s passing. “We will miss her and the wonderful contributions she made to our department, our teams and especially the lives of our student-athletes.”

The pink helped the team to a 6-1-1 record thus far in the season, the Cougars best start since 2007.

“The team came to me and they really wanted to honor Gaye,” BYU head coach Brad Cattermole said. “I think it’s great because it gives them a bit of a higher purpose.”

The team has already received positive feedback from other teams who appreciate the team’s dedication to Merrill and all of those who have fought against breast cancer. During the team’s last meet in Cleveland, Ohio, a moment of silence was taken to remember Merrill.

BYU gymnastics will host their first home meet of the season this Saturday at noon in the Smith Fieldhouse.

Last Meet Vs. Utah

PROVO, Utah (Mar. 18, 2011) – In their final home meet of the season, the BYU women’s gymnastics team (12-6-2) fell to rival Utah Friday by a score of 195.8 – 196.7 in the Marriott Center on senior night. The Cougars’ team mark was their best of the season.

“From beginning to end we fought hard,” said BYU head coach Brad Cattermole. “I think we were trying so hard to stick landings and get big scores that we got ahead of ourselves at times, but we competed well.”

Seniors Jessica Villegas and Madeleine Johnson were honored after their final home meet as Cougars. Both posted career-highs on the night as Johnson scored a 9.900 on bars while Villegas scored a career-best 9.850 on floor.

The Cougars began on vault and were led by sophomore Haylee Rollins, who posted a 9.85. Freshman KayCee Gassaway and junior Natalie Eyre each recorded a 9.825 to bring BYU’s team score to 48.975. Eyre, the BYU team captain, is currently ranked eighth in the North Central region on vault and boasts a career-high score of 9.925.

After the first rotation, the Utes held the lead, scoring 49.375 compared to BYU’s 48.975.

On bars, Johnson was not the only Cougar to receive a career-high score. Freshmen Raquel Willman and Rollins each posted career-highs, scoring 9.875 and 9.90 respectively. After two rotations, the Cougars’ running score was 98.25, just .3 points behind the Ute’s, who sat at 98.550. BYU’s 49.725 on bar was their best mark of the season.

“I think this builds our confidence going into regionals, which is the biggest meet of the season,” Villegas said.

Junior Krysten Koval set a new career-high on beam, posting a 9.900 to lead the Cougars in the third rotation. Eyre also set a new career high with a 9.875 and Willman recorded a 9.800 as BYU recorded a season-high 49.050 on beam.

Mickell Merrell led BYU on floor by posting a career-high 9.850. Rollins and senior Jessica Villegas each equaled Merrell’s score and helped the Cougars to a 48.500 team score on the event.

BYU will now await their regional bid which will be announced Monday.