



2004 BIG WEST WOMEN'S SOCCER

Big West Conference - 2 Corporate Park, Suite 206, Irvine, CA 92606

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UC Santa Barbara's Borcich Becomes Three-Time Offensive Player of the Year; Cal Poly's Simmons Top Defender For Second Time

IRVINE, CA – The 2004 Big West Women's Soccer All-Conference Team was released today as UC Santa Barbara senior **Jennifer Borcich** was named Offensive Player of the Year for the third time in her career and Cal Poly junior **Sierra Simmons** took home Defensive Player of the Year honors for the second time. Cal State Fullerton junior **Kellie Cox** and sophomore **Karen Bardsley** earned Big West Midfielder of the Year and Goalkeeper of the Year accolades, respectively. UC Riverside's **Jenna Leonti** collected the Freshman of the Year award and Cal State Northridge's **Terry Davila** was the Coach of the Year.

Borcich, who also was the conference's Offensive Player of the Year in 2001 and 2003, finished her career with 56 goals and 26 assists for 138 points. She is the Big West's career record holder for goals and points. Borcich, a native of Sacramento, Calif., led all conference players this season in goals (15) and points (35). The 15 goals ranked tied for seventh on the conference's single-season list while the 35 points was tied for eighth. The forward also led the Big West with eight game-winning goals in 2004. Borcich is the first women's soccer player in Big West annals to earn first team all-conference honors four straight years. A UCSB player has earned top offensive player honors in all four years the award has existed.

The same holds true for Cal Poly's defensive tradition. This is the fourth year in a row that a Mustang has garnered top defensive player acclaim and is the second straight such honor for Simmons. The junior anchored a stingy Mustang backline that allowed opponents a measly 12 goals all season and helped post a league-best 0.59 goals against average. Simmons was a vital part of the effort that helped Cal Poly post 10 shutouts on the year, including a pair in the Big West Tournament.

This is the first time the Big West has recognized a Midfielder of the Year. Cal State Fullerton's Cox earned that distinction as she played an integral role in leading her team to the Big West regular season co-championship. She ranked second on the Titans with four goals and 11 points, and her three assists tied her for second. Cox made a magnificent comeback after missing almost the entire 2003 season with a bruised and lacerated liver. The native of Lancaster, Calif., also ranked fourth in the conference with 51 shots.

The top goalkeeper, Bardsley, is another Titan player who flourished after recovering from injury. After suffering a broken leg during the second match of 2003, Bardsley's rehabilitation period extended through the first eight matches of this season. However, once healed she returned to the form that made her the 2002 Big West Freshman of the Year. Bardsley allowed only eight goals in 12 matches for a 0.71 goals against average. She posted five shutouts, including in the final four conference games which ultimately propelled the Titans to the regular season co-championship. Her fifth shutout was a 1-0 win against Big West Tournament champion Cal Poly.

Leonti was selected the premier freshman in the conference after an outstanding 2004 campaign in which she netted eight goals. She tied the UC Riverside single-season record for goals in the process and tied for fourth among Big West players. Leonti also tied for seventh in the Big West with 18 points.

Davila led Cal State Northridge to a 12-6-1 record in his first season as the head coach. The Matadors also finished tied for third in the Big West standings with a 6-3 mark and advanced to their first-ever Big West Tournament. Davila, who doubles as the Matador men's soccer head coach, saw his team tie school records for most overall and conference victories. In addition, he led Northridge to an eight-win turnaround from the 2003 season. Davila also helped the team lower its goals against average from 1.63 in 2003 to 1.07 this season.

Cal State Fullerton led all Big West teams with five selections on the all-conference first team while Cal Poly had four and UC Riverside two. In addition to UCSB's Borcich, five other players are multiple recipients of first team all-conference honors. Recognized for the second time on the first team was Cal State Fullerton's **Kandace Wilson** and Cox, Utah State's **Melissa Baggaley**, Cal Poly's Simmons and UC Riverside's **Kristi Tanaka**.

The complete All-Big West Women's Soccer Team can be viewed on the following page:

2004 ALL-BIG WEST WOMEN'S SOCCER TEAM

FIRST TEAM

<u>Player</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Hometown</u>
Jennifer Borcich+++	UC Santa Barbara	Senior	Forward	Sacramento, CA
Sharon Day	Cal Poly	Sophomore	Forward	Costa Mesa, CA
Kandace Wilson+	Cal State Fullerton	Junior	Forward	Walnut, CA
Carmen Padilla	Pacific	Sophomore	Forward	San Jose, CA
Kellie Cox+	Cal State Fullerton	Junior	Midfielder	Lancaster, CA
Megan Gurney	Cal Poly	Senior	Midfielder	Saratoga, CA
Brianna Monka	Cal State Northridge	Junior	Midfielder	Camarillo, CA
Renee Scachetti	UC Riverside	Junior	Midfielder	Torrance, CA
Melissa Baggaley+	Utah State	Senior	Defender	Salt Lake City, UT
Marlene Sandoval	Cal State Fullerton	Junior	Defender	Placentia, CA
Sierra Simmons+	Cal Poly	Junior	Defender	Sebastopol, CA
Kristi Tanaka+	UC Riverside	Senior	Defender	Torrance, CA
Vanessa Valentine	Cal State Fullerton	Senior	Defender	Encinitas, CA
Karen Bardsley	Cal State Fullerton	Sophomore	Goalkeeper	Chino Hills, CA
Liz Hill	Cal Poly	Junior	Goalkeeper	Ross, CA

SECOND TEAM

<u>Player</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Hometown</u>
Nicole Gooch	Utah State	Senior	Forward	Eagle, ID
Rebecca Hidalgo	Cal State Northridge	Senior	Forward	La Crescenta, CA
Allie Kueny	UC Santa Barbara	Sophomore	Forward	Brea, CA
Kristyn Bright	UC Santa Barbara	Junior	Midfielder	Glendora, CA
Stephanie Hedien	Cal Poly	Senior	Midfielder	Renton, WA
Erin Shelton	Cal State Fullerton	Junior	Midfielder	Rialto, CA
Allison Wiegand	Long Beach State	Senior	Midfielder	Modesto, CA
Katie Cooper	UC Santa Barbara	Junior	Defender	Claremont, CA
Heidi McQuitty	Cal Poly	Sophomore	Defender	Solvang, CA
Tara Weldon	UC Irvine	Senior	Defender	Los Angeles, CA

HONORABLE MENTION

<u>Player</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Hometown</u>
Randi Johns	UC Santa Barbara	Senior	Forward	Cypress, CA
Jenna Leonti	UC Riverside	Freshman	Forward	Corona, CA
Britney Webster	UC Irvine	Sophomore	Forward	Mission Viejo, CA
Heather Bryan	Cal Poly	Senior	Midfielder	Davis, CA
Darci Gwartz	UC Santa Barbara	Sophomore	Midfielder	Yorba Linda, CA
Charity Weston	Utah State	Sophomore	Midfielder	Layton, UT
Montez Harrison	Pacific	Freshman	Defender	Oakland, CA
Natalie Messina	Long Beach State	Sophomore	Defender	Santa Rosa, CA
Kelsey Nagel	Pacific	Sophomore	Defender	Lynnwood, WA
Tawny Poggio	UC Riverside	Sophomore	Goalkeeper	Santa Ana, CA

+Two-Time First Team Member

+++Four-Time First Team Member

2004 Big West Offensive Player Of The Year: Jennifer Borcich, UC Santa Barbara

2004 Big West Midfielder Of The Year: Kellie Cox, Cal State Fullerton

2004 Big West Defensive Player Of The Year: Sierra Simmons, Cal Poly

2004 Big West Goalkeeper Of The Year: Karen Bardsley, Cal State Fullerton

2004 Big West Freshman Of The Year: Jenna Leonti, UC Riverside

2004 Big West Coach Of The Year: Terry Davila, Cal State Northridge