



INSIDE BEAVER NATION



**Continued
Excellence**
(2009-10)

**Expect
Excellence**
(2008-09)



**Dedicated to
Excellence**
(2007-08)

- 20-12 Overall Record
- 4th Place (tie) Pac-10 Conference
- WNIT Appearance



2009-10 OUTLOOK

STATE

OREGON STATE

2009 BASKETBALL 2010

Beavers



**Committed to
Excellence**
(2006-07)



**Establishing
Excellence**
(2005-06)

CONTINUED EXCELLENCE

2009

OK



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UNIVERSITY INFORMATION

Location.....	Corvallis, OR
Enrollment.....	20,200
Founded	1868
Nickname	Beavers
Colors	Orange and Black
Conference.....	Pacific-10
President.....	Dr. Edward Ray
Athletic Director	Bob De Carolis
Senior Women's Administrator.....	Marianne Vydra

BASKETBALL INFORMATION

2008-09 Record.....	20-12
2008-09 Pac-10 Conference Record.....	9-9
Pac-10 Finish.....	T-4th
Letterwinners Returning	7
Redshirts Returning.....	0
Letterwinners Lost	5
Starters Returning.....	2
Starters Lost.....	3
Newcomers	6
Facility.....	Gill Coliseum
Capacity	10,400

COACHING INFORMATION

Head Coach (Year).....	LaVonda Wagner (5th)
Alma Mater	Mars Hill College '86
Record at Oregon State.....	57-65 (5)
Career Record	Same
Assistant Coaches.....	Kellee Barney (2nd) Krista Reinking (5th) Anthony Turner (2nd)
Director of Operations.....	Erin Entwistle (5th)
Basketball Office Phone.....	(541) 737-2800
Best time to reach Wagner	Mornings through SID

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CREDITS

The 2009-10 Oregon State women's basketball media guide was written and edited by Hank Hager with additional record information from Hal Cowan. Layout and design completed by Grant Hawkins of Grant Hawkins Design. Cover design by Mollie McClure. Special thanks as always to the Pacific-10 Conference. Other thanks to all former members of the Oregon State Sports Information staff, the current OSU women's basketball coaching staff, Mollie McClure and Annie Heck. FSN photos of LaVonda Wagner provided by Mark Rosenberg of the Seattle Storm. WNBA photo of Felicia Ragland provided by Bob Schranz of the Houston Comets, courtesy of the WNBA. Other Photography credits include Mollie McClure, Barry Schwartz, Dave Nishitani, Beth Buglione, Ethan Erickson and the OSU athletic department archives. Printing by Lynx Communication Group, Inc., of Salem, Ore.



I AM ORANGE.

CONTINUED EXCELLENCE



2009-10 OUTLOOK

Oregon State is coming off one of its finest seasons in school history. It was a year that saw the Beavers win 20 games, including nine in Pac-10 play, and earn their second berth to the WNIT under head coach LaVonda Wagner.

That was a year ago. While Wagner and the returning Beavers certainly revel in their accomplishments from last season, their focus is on the present and the challenge that lies ahead. With 14 players on the roster, including seven newcomers, the challenge for Wagner will be to see how all the pieces fit together; how to get the most successful lineup on the floor early on as OSU gets ready for the always tough Pac-10 season.

It is a team that will certainly have its leadership, and will be balanced both offensively and defensively. A number of highly talented guards and forwards dot the roster this season, and each will be fighting for playing time early on. Each has a goal of maximizing their potential and impressing Wagner, who has built Oregon State into a significantly improved Pac-10 program in just four seasons in Corvallis.

Now, in her fifth year, she'll have another challenge, but she has instilled hard work and dedication which will give the Beavers every chance this year to succeed.

Wagner's senior class this season features two players in Stacey Nichols and Julie Futch who have been with the program for three years, and a third, Anita Burdick, who started her first year at Oregon State last season. Nichols and Futch have an intrinsic knowledge of the program.

Anita Burdick (Reno, Nev.) did not see much action as a junior last season, but is expected to have an expanded role in 2009-10. She has the ability to be a force on the inside and will be expected to make an impact on the boards this season. She is a solid defensive player and will be relied upon in this respect.

Julie Futch (Auburn, Wash.) is a versatile guard who adds a high amount of energy off the bench. The senior has played in 77 career games, and started once, and plays an up-tempo game. She will be relied upon to add experience and depth in 2009-10. She's a strong guard and has displayed excellent rebounding skills in past seasons.

Stacey Nichols (Beaverton, Ore.) is a student of the game and will be a key leader in 2009-10. Nichols, who came to OSU from basketball powerhouse Southridge High School, plays the game fundamentally excellent and has learned to play multiple roles to become an even better asset to the club. Wagner calls Nichols a coach on the floor as she has outstanding verbal skills in a leadership role.



The Beavers' junior class is anchored by one of the top shooters in the Pac-10 and two junior college transfers who will have the chance to make an immediate impact on a relatively young squad. Talisa Rhea made an impact last year from beyond the three-point line, while El Sara Greer is a 6-foot-2 forward who earned All-American honors last season. Eisha Sheppard, meanwhile, is a quick guard who earned all-state honors last season while playing at the JUCO level.

El Sara Greer (Waterloo, Iowa) helped guide Kirkwood Community College to back-to-back national titles while serving as a top shot blocker, which helped her earn All-American honors. She totaled 196 blocks over her two seasons and will carry that over into the tough and competitive Pac-10. She is also an accurate shooter and a talented rebounder.

Talisa Rhea (Juneau, Alaska) could arguably be considered one of the top shooters in the Pac-10 in 2009-10. She's already second in school history with 131 three-pointers and is poised for another outstanding season. Rhea already holds the league's three-point record with 10 against Sacramento State last season. She is expected to be a leader this season as she has significant Pac-10 experience through her first two years. The native of Alaska worked hard in the offseason to improve her overall game.

Eisha Sheppard (Victorville, Calif.) joins the Beavers this season after two impressive years the junior college level where she earned both All-America and All-State honors. Last season, she averaged 14.2 points and four assists per game at San Bernadino Valley College. Sheppard will be expected to contribute immediately and has a knack for high-percentage shots while dishing the ball off successfully.

Wagner's sophomore class got extensive Pac-10 and postseason experience last season. True sophomores Brittany Kennedy and Kirsten Tilleman anchor the class while redshirt sophomore Kassandra McCalister came on late last season. The group has size and speed and even greater potential after showing promising signs last season.



2009-10 OUTLOOK

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Brittany Kennedy (Spokane, Wash.) is fast. The Spokane native showed speed and athleticism in her freshman campaign and worked hard in the offseason to help assume control of the offense after the graduation of Mercedes Fox-Griffin. Kennedy won three straight state titles in high school and knows how to win. She is a very energetic player, especially on the defensive side of the ball where she can be disruptive to opposing offenses.

Kassandra McCalister (Sunnyvale, Calif.) played valuable minutes in her first full season with the Beavers. Coming off a true freshman campaign where she did not play due to injury, McCalister played in 19 games in 2008-09, showing glimpses of impressive offensive talent. She has a deft scoring touch and is a good rebounding guard. Like most of OSU's players, she knows how to win after playing for a top high school program.

Kirsten Tilleman (Bozeman, Mont.) is a former Montana High School Player of the Year who has done nothing but impress since coming to Corvallis. She started the last 14 Pac-10 games of the 2008-09 and displayed a knack for grabbing rebounds in key moments. She will be expected to continue that this season while adding more scoring. Off the court, she has been a tremendous addition as she was a member of the OSU Honor Roll after accumulating a 4.0 GPA in her first year.

The Beavers will have five freshmen on the team this season. It is a highly impressive group who have winning in their blood, whether it comes from California or Oregon high school play or with the Spanish National Team. Like the rest of the club, each of the freshmen has a chance to make an impact immediately this season.

Taylor Champion (Inglewood, Calif.) is one of three freshmen from California high schools who will dot the roster this season. She is an excellent all-around player who was recognized by the recruiting services prior to signing with the Beavers. She is a guard/forward combo type player who is a consistent scorer and rebounder.

Amaya Gastaminza (Pamplona, Spain) starts her career as an Oregon State forward after a celebrated international career, which includes a Gold and Silver Medal in the last year. Gastaminza has been rated as one of the top Spanish players in her age group, which comes as no surprise as she averaged better than 11 points at the U18 European Championships this past summer. She will have to adjust to the collegiate game, but could play a significant role this season.



Kate Lanz (Vancouver, Wash.) is a talented guard who played for one of the top high school teams in the state of Oregon last season. She was named The Oregonian 6A Player of the Year after finishing with 15.4 points, 6.1 rebounds and 4.1 steals per game her senior year. Lanz is a deft passer and playmaker who will be expected to play a key role in the offense this season.

Angela Misa (Oceanside, Calif.) is a 6-foot-1 forward who was highly lauded in high school. She is an all-around player who can score, rebound and play strong defense. Misa is a strong and aggressive player who gives the Beavers a shot blocking presence down low.

Haideen Palmer (Moreno Valley, Calif.) comes to the Beavers for the 2009-10 season after earning all-league honors in each of her four seasons at Vista del Lago High School. She led her club to a 25-3 record her senior year while averaging 16.7 points and 7.2 rebounds per game. Palmer is a combo guard who can serve as a shooter or as the point guard.

Oregon State plays an always challenging schedule in 2009-10, which will include 2008-09 NCAA Tournament teams UC Santa Barbara, Stanford, California and Arizona State. OSU opens its campaign Nov. 13 against Cal Poly before going on the road for four straight games against Houston, Houston Baptist and to play in the Northern Arizona Thanksgiving Classic.

After its non-conference slate, which includes five games in the state of Oregon in December, Oregon State opens Pac-10 play Jan. 1 against Washington State. The Beavers finish their regular season March 7 against that same WSU squad before playing in the Pac-10 Tournament March 11-14 in Los Angeles.

Oregon State will appear on FSN twice this season; Jan. 9 against Oregon and Jan. 16 at Arizona State.





ROSTER BREAKDOWN

2009-10 NUMERICAL ROSTER

<u>NO.</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>POS</u>	<u>HT</u>	<u>YR</u>	<u>EXP</u>	<u>HOMETOWN (LAST SCHOOL)</u>
3	Taylor Champion	G/F	6-1	Fr.	HS	Inglewood, Calif. (Inglewood HS)
5	Kassandra McCalister	G	5-9	So.*	1V	Sunnyvale, Calif. (Archbishop Mitty HS)
10	Eisha Sheppard	G	5-5	Jr.	TR	Victorville, Calif. (Victor Valley HS/Southeast CC)
11	Talisa Rhea	G	5-11	Jr.	2V	Juneau, Alaska (Juneau-Douglas HS)
15	Kate Lanz	G	5-10	Fr.	HS	Vancouver, Wash. (Central Catholic HS)
20	Angela Misa	F	6-1	Fr.	HS	Oceanside, Calif. (Junipero Serra Catholic HS)
22	Haiden Palmer	G	5-8	Fr.	HS	Moreno Valley, Calif. (Vista Del Lago HS)
23	Julie Futch	G	5-8	Sr.	3V	Auburn, Wash. (Auburn Riverside HS)
24	Brittany Kennedy	G	5-7	So.	1V	Spokane, Wash. (Lewis & Clark HS)
30	Amaya Gastaminza	F	6-2	Fr.	HS	Pamplona, Spain (IES Joaquim Blume HS)
32	Kirsten Tilleman	F	6-1	So.	1V	Bozeman, Mont. (Bozeman HS)
34	El Sara Greer	F	6-2	Jr.	TR	Waterloo, Iowa (East Waterloo HS/Kirkwood CC)
42	Anita Burdick	F	6-3	Sr.	1V	Reno, Nev. (North Valleys HS/Southern Idaho)
44	Stacey Nichols	F	6-1	Sr.	3V	Beaverton, Ore. (Southridge HS)

2009-10 ALPHABETICAL ROSTER

<u>NO.</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>POS</u>	<u>HT</u>	<u>YR</u>	<u>EXP</u>	<u>HOMETOWN (LAST SCHOOL)</u>
42	Anita Burdick	F	6-3	Sr.	1V	Reno, Nev. (North Valleys HS/Southern Idaho)
3	Taylor Champion	G/F	6-1	Fr.	HS	Inglewood, Calif. (Inglewood HS)
23	Julie Futch	G	5-8	Sr.	3V	Auburn, Wash. (Auburn Riverside HS)
30	Amaya Gastaminza	F	6-2	Fr.	HS	Pamplona, Spain (IES Joaquim Blume HS)
34	El Sara Greer	F	6-2	Jr.	TR	Waterloo, Iowa (East Waterloo HS/Kirkwood CC)
24	Brittany Kennedy	G	5-7	So.	1V	Spokane, Wash. (Lewis & Clark HS)
15	Kate Lanz	G	5-10	Fr.	HS	Vancouver, Wash. (Central Catholic HS)
5	Kassandra McCalister	G	5-9	So.*	1V	Sunnyvale, Calif. (Archbishop Mitty HS)
20	Angela Misa	F	6-1	Fr.	HS	Oceanside, Calif. (Junipero Serra Catholic HS)
44	Stacey Nichols	F	6-1	Sr.	3V	Beaverton, Ore. (Southridge HS)
22	Haiden Palmer	G	5-8	Fr.	HS	Moreno Valley, Calif. (Vista Del Lago HS)
11	Talisa Rhea	G	5-11	Jr.	2V	Juneau, Alaska (Juneau-Douglas HS)
10	Eisha Sheppard	G	5-5	Jr.	TR	Victorville, Calif. (Victor Valley HS/Southeast CC)
32	Kirsten Tilleman	F	6-1	So.	1V	Bozeman, Mont. (Bozeman HS)

* Has utilized redshirt season

HEAD COACH:

LaVonda Wagner, Mars Hill College, '86 (5th year)

ASSISTANT COACHES:

Kellee Barney, Idaho, '83 (2nd year)

Krista Reinking, Illinois, '99 (5th year)

Anthony Turner, Colorado, '00 (2nd year)

DIRECTOR OF BASKETBALL OPERATIONS:

Erin Entwistle, Western Illinois, '04 (5th year)

PRONUNCIATION GUIDE

Talisa **RHEA**: REE-Ah