



SPRINGFIELD COLLEGE ATHLETICS

Men's Gymnastics 2009

FAST FACTS:

- ▼ The gymnastics team was the first varsity sport at Springfield College in 1891. Over 115 years later, the Pride remains a USA leader in competitive and exhibition gymnastics.
- ▼ One of the top squads in the East, the Pride has produced many ECAC medalists, USAG All-Americans, and NCAA qualifiers.
- ▼ Head coach **Steve Posner** has coached 126 All-Americans and 17 National Champions in his 26 seasons at Springfield College.
- ▼ Springfield College's famous gymnastics exhibition show, a performance unique to the gymnastics world, attracts more than 3,000 spectators each fall. The shows on Oct. 17 and 18, 2008 were the 99th annual.
- ▼ Affiliations: National Collegiate Athletic Conference (NCAA) Division III, Eastern College Athletic Conference (ECAC)
- ▼ Conference: Eastern Intercollegiate Gymnastics League (EIGL)
- ▼ Home Facility: Blake Arena

CONTACT INFORMATION:

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*sophomore
Josh Fox*



Head Coach Steve Posner

▼ Education

University of California-Berkeley '76 BA
Syracuse University '80 MA
University of Connecticut '99 Ph.D.

▼ Coaching Accomplishments at Springfield College

- Three straight USAG crowns ('91-'93)
- USAG and National Association of College Gymnastics Coaches (NACGC) Division II-III Coach of the Year ('92 and '93)
- NCAA Eastern Regional Coach of the Year ('02, '08)
- Received the prestigious CGA Coaches Honor Award for 25 years of meritorious service to the sport of gymnastics ('07)

Entering his 27th season as head coach, **Dr. Steve Posner** is one of the outstanding gymnastics coaches in the East. In 2008, his team finished second in the New England Championships, fourth in the USAG's, hosted by Springfield, and fifth at the Eastern College Athletic Conference (ECAC)/Eastern Intercollegiate Gymnastics League (EIGL) Championships.

Under Posner, the Pride have consistently been regarded as one of the top squads in the East, winning four of the last six New England Championship titles.

One of Posner's gymnasts and former graduate assistant, Ricardo Portalatin, was chosen to represent Puerto Rico at the 1995 World Championships in Japan. In 1984, another one of Posner's gymnasts, Jeff Coelho, finished second in the NCAA Division I Championships behind Olympic Champion Tim Daggett, as Coelho edged out Olympian Mitch Gaylord.

Posner served as the gymnastics chair for the World Maccabiah Games in Israel in 1997. He was the chairman of the USA Gymnastics Collegiate Committee from 1991 to 1994 and is the current President of that committee. He is also chair of the NCAA Rules Committee.

Posner competed at the University of California and earned All-American honors in the floor exercise in 1974. The following year, he helped lead the Golden Bears to the NCAA Division I Championship. He was a member of the U.S. Elite National Team from 1973 to 1975 and won gold medals in the floor exercise and in the all-around at the 1973 Maccabiah Games.

Posner, an associate professor of sport management, joined the Springfield College staff in 1982 after coaching at SUNY Cortland for two years. He also served as an assistant coach at Syracuse University from 1977 to 1980.

2008 Season Wrap-Up

USA Gymnastics National Collegiate Championships

Team Place - 4th w/ 326.200 points
Joshua Fox - 4th in All-Around*; 4th in High Bar*;
6th in Floor Exercise*

Andrew Kelly - 6th in Parallel Bars*

Matthew Tocchio - 6th in Pommel Horse*

**All-American Recognition*

ECAC Championships

Team Place - 5th w/ 322.200 points
Matthew Bolognese - 3rd in Still Rings
Joshua Fox - 5th in Floor Exercise^

^All-ECAC Recognition

New England Championships

Team Place - 2nd w/ 331.150 points
Matthew Bolognese - 1st in Still Rings
JJ Ferreira - 2nd in Vault%
Matthew Freundlich - 5th in High Bar%
Andrew Kelly - 3rd in Floor Exercise% ;
3rd in Parallel Bars%

Josh Spencer - 3rd in Vault%

% All-New England Recognition

USAG National Scholar-Athlete

Matthew Davis

JJ Ferreira

2008 National Association of Collegiate Gymnastics Coaches East Region Coach of the Year

Steve Posner

EIGL Gymnasts of the Week

Matt Davis - March 15

Matthew Bolognese - February 18

EIGL Honorary Team of the Week

Springfield College - March 15

Maroon Club Athletes of the Week

JJ Ferreira - January 21

Joshua Fox - February 18

Josh Spencer - March 17

The Record Book

Event	Score	Athlete	Year	Team			
All-Around	55.55	Ron Spinelle	1988	(5 scores)	266.40	USGF Champ.	1991
Floor Exercise	9.70	Jason Lewenczuk	1996	(4 scores)	212.90	ECAC Champ.	1996
High Bar	9.70	Ron Spinelle	1988				
Parallel Bars	9.50	Scott Stilwell	1988				
Pommel Horse	9.45	Ron Spinelle	1988				
Rings	9.90	Jeff Coehlo	1984				
Vaulting	9.775	James Mlynarski	1999				

2009 Roster of Returning Players

Name	Cl.	Event	Hometown/Club
Kyle Bartgis	Jr.	AA	Nottingham, Md./Columbia Gym
Matthew Bolognese	Sr.	AA	Stony Brook, N.Y./Eastern
Josh Fox	So.	AA	Ellicott City, Md./Colombia Gym
Michael Freundlich	So.	AA	Westfield, N.J./Surgent's Elite
Paul Fusco	Sr.	AA	Lake Ronkonkoma, N.Y./Eastern
Christopher Griffin	Sr.	AA	Barre, Mass./Sterling Academy
Andrew Kelly	Sr.	AA	Marstons Mills, Mass./Somersault
Michael Licari	So.	AA	Haverhill, Mass./Yellow Jackets
Timothy Monaco	So.	AA	Braintree, Mass./Ellis Gym
Roger Moulton	So.	AA	Wenham, Mass./Yellow Jackets
William Regan	So.	AA	Annapolis, Md./Barlow's Gym
Ken Sloanhoffer	Sr.	AA	New Windsor, N.Y./World Cup Gym
Josh Spencer	Jr.	AA	Las Vegas, Nev./Go For It USA
Keith Stumpf	Jr.	AA	Williamsville, N.Y./Stumpf's Gym
David Tilley	So.	AA	Hebru, Conn./Dunne's Gym
Matt Tocchio	Jr.	AA	Braintree, Mass./Ellis Gym
Patrick Vaughn	Sr.	AA	Braintree, Mass./Ellis Gym

Head Coach: Steve Posner (27th season, UC-Berkeley '76)
Assistant Coaches: Matt Davis, Gary Loomis, Greg Monaco



*senior captain
Andy Kelly*

2008 Results

JANUARY

18-19 at Army Invitational 4th/6 teams
 26 at Navy 3rd/6 teams

FEBRUARY

3 **Air Force** L, 333.000-337.500
 9 at MIT W, 316.200-306.700
 16 at Temple w/MIT
 Temple 339.450, SC 329.600, MIT 311.800
 24 **William & Mary w/Illinois-Chicago**
 UIC 340.300, W&M 338.650, SC 327.000

MARCH

8 at Army L, 324.40-328.65
 16 **Army w/MIT** SC 338.050, Army 336.400, MIT 325.300
 22 New England Invitational at MIT 2nd w/331.150
 28 **USAGs** 4th w/326.200

APRIL

4-5 ECACs at Army 5th w/322.200
 17-19 NCAA Championships at Stanford

Home meets in **bold**

2009 Schedule

JANUARY

16-17 Fri.-Sat. West Point Open at Army 7:00 pm
 24 Sat. Navy Open at Navy 3:00 pm

FEBRUARY

1 Sun. **MIT** 1:00 pm
 7 Sat. at MIT TBA
 20 Fri. **Temple** 7:00 pm
 28 Sat. at Navy w/William & Mary 3:00 pm

MARCH

8 Sun. **Army** 1:00 pm
 14 Sat. at Army w/William and Mary 6:00 pm
 21 Sat. **New England Invitational Championships** 7:00 pm
 27-28 Fri.-Sat. USAGs At William and Mary 5:00 pm

APRIL

3-4 Fri.-Sat. ECACs at Army 6:00 pm
 16-18 Thu.-Fri. NCAA at Minnesota TBA

Home meets in **bold**



Facilities

The men's gymnastics team competes in the 2,000-seat Blake Arena located in the Physical Education Complex. Gymnasts train in Kresge Gym, a fully equipped, top-notch facility. Team members practice and compete on the most up-to-date equipment, including an AAI Palmer Spring Floor, two AAI pommel horses, three sets of AAI parallel bars, two AAI high bars, two sets of AAI rings, and a spring-loaded AAI vaulting table. Two above-ground free foam safety pits are used for development of new skills on the high bar, rings, parallel bars, floor, and vault.

2009 Season Preview

Springfield Men's Gymnastics squad enjoyed a great deal of success in the 2008 season. Highlighted by the Pride's first victory over Army in 26 years, and head coach **Steve Posner** named 2008 National Association of Collegiate Gymnastics Coaches East Region Coach of the Year, Springfield also had a total of six Pride gymnasts qualify for the NCAA Division I Championships as individuals.

Josh Fox, Springfield's highest finisher at NCAAs after a 25th place finish in the floor exercise, will be a strong contributor in only his second season with the Pride. Fox earned All-American honors in three different events at the 2008 USA Gymnastics Collegiate National Championships, hosted by Springfield College.

Also earning All-American honors at USAGs were **Andrew Kelly**, who finished sixth in the parallel bars; and **Matt Tocchio**, who finished 6th in the pommel horse, both of whom are returning for Springfield.

Kelly and fellow senior **Matthew Bolognese** will provide leadership for the Pride in 2009. A strong junior class, including **Josh Spencer**, **Keith Stumpf**, and Tocchio, will help keep Springfield in the hunt for a possible fifth New England title in six years.



junior
Matt Tocchio

The History of Springfield College Gymnastics

Springfield College has a long and rich gymnastics tradition, which dates back to 1891. Today, the Pride is one of the top squads in the Northeast.

James Naismith, the inventor of the game of basketball; Amos Alonzo Stagg, the grand old man of football; and Dr. Luther Gulick, father of U.S. physical education and recreation, are among those who have called themselves Springfield College gymnasts.

Springfield College gymnastics coaches have been pioneers in the sport. In 1921, Leslie Judd became the first full-time gymnastics coach and went on to create the world-famous

"statuary of youths" that was later renamed "tableaux." For decades, tableaux has been a trademark of the Springfield College gymnastics program. In 1939, *Life Magazine* featured the tableaux in its January issue, while *International Gymnast* magazine profiled it in the December 2004 issue. Springfield College gymnasts have performed all over the world, and, in 1996, thrilled a sold-out Fleet Center crowd in Boston at the U.S. Olympic Trials.

Frank Wolcott, who coached the team from 1955 to 1981, was a driving force behind initiating intercollegiate teams for both the men's and women's gymnastics programs. He is a past president of the National Gymnastics Coaches Association.