

NASEERUDDIN-NATALIE AWARD

NOMINATION



NAME: James Marden

SCHOOL: UIC

MAJOR and GPA: Biochemistry, 3.21/4.0 ____



Gymnast's Action shot

FROM COACH:

James Marden has served as the UIC team captain for the past two seasons and his leadership, passion, and organization have been critical to the continuation of Gymnastics at UIC. As a gymnast James has been a regular part of the UIC line up on FX and HB during his four year career despite a labral tear in his shoulder. James approaches the sport with grit and determination and this approach has made him a consistent force in the line up and a team leader.

James' career nearly ended after the 2019 season when the UIC Gymnastics program was dropped from varsity status. During the 2018-2019 academic year James navigated his team through the fight to save the program while simultaneously guiding a young team through the competition season. The 2019 UIC Flames team had only 5 upper classmen and two of them decided to transfer mid-year. James's leadership kept the team focused on the season while ensuring good academic progress from the whole

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squad. His leadership helped retain most of the squad and this has allowed the development of the all new Gymnastics at UIC Club Team. Simply search the internet for “save UIC gymnastics” and you will find a quote or interview from James.

James took the lead in development of the new UIC club team. He has been the student lead in organizing the club under UIC campus recreation, he was key to site selection for the team’s new training facility, and he was a consistent voice toward the transfer of team equipment from athletics to campus recreation.

James has had a steady competitive gymnastics career, but the highlight of his collegiate career has been the steps he has taken to ensure that gymnastics will remain at UIC.

CAREER BEST PERFORMANCES:

List gymnast’s career bio

List gymnast’s career bio

List gymnast’s career bio

List gymnast’s career bio

List gymnast’s career bio

NAME of NOMINATOR:

Charley Nelson; Head Coach, Gymnastics at UIC

Nominator’s Program:

UIC