

Husker Women's Gymnastics Team to Compete in National Finals This Weekend

The No. 6 Nebraska women's gymnastics team will make its third consecutive trip to the NCAA Championships this weekend, when they travel to Duluth, Ga., to compete in the 2012 NCAA Women's Gymnastics Championships on April 20-22.

The Huskers were one of 12 teams to advance to the championships after a second-place finish at the NCAA Salt Lake City Regional on April 7. NU will compete in the afternoon semifinal session at 11 a.m. (CST) on Friday, April 20, against No. 2 UCLA, No. 3 Oklahoma, No. 7 Utah, No. 10 Stanford and No. 11 LSU. The top three finishers will advance to the Super Six finals on Saturday, April 21, against the top three teams from the other semifinal session which includes No. 1 Florida, No. 4 Alabama, No. 5 Georgia, No. 8 Arkansas, No. 9 Oregon State and No. 12 Ohio State.

The Huskers own a 23-3 record on the season and have only dropped one contest away from the Devaney Center, falling to Utah at the Salt Lake City regional. Big Ten Freshman of the Year Jessie DeZiel leads the Husker squad.

After securing their 28th consecutive post-season appearance with their placement in the Salt Lake City Regional, the Huskers have now advanced to the NCAA Championships for the 21st time in school history. Nebraska has advanced to the Super Six finals 10 times in program history and tied for its highest finish in school history in 2011, when they took home fourth place in Cleveland, Ohio.

Individually, Nebraska has crowned five champions, including two from current assistant coach Heather Brink, who won the all-around and vault national titles in 2000. Brink was the first Nebraska gymnast to ever win multiple national titles. Richelle Simpson followed in Brink's steps by winning the all-around and floor titles in 2003. Michele Bryant was the first NU gymnast to win an individual national title, winning the vault championship in 1990.