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**BILLABONG'S SURF QUEEN FROM DOWN UNDER REMAINS ON TOP  
Second, Consecutive ASP World Title Win for Layne Beachley**

Irvine, CA -- Billabong USA Team Rider, 1998 ASP women's world surfing champion and big-wave surfer, Layne Beachley (Australia) has added strength to the phrase "surf like a girl." After a long, December day of excellent waves in the six to 10 foot range at Sunset Beach, Hawaii and a final quarter of strong offshore winds and tricky wave sets; Beachley secured her second, consecutive world title as the 1999 ASP women's world surfing champ, competing with Serena Brooke (Australia) and Trudy Todd (Australia), who are numbers 2 and 3, respectively.

At 27, the once skinny grom, who entered her first surfing scholastic surfing competition at age 15, has made "going big" a part of every aspect of her life. She is the first of a handful of female surfers to challenge the big waves by way of tow-in surfing, claimed the record in earnings for a single season in the history of women's surfing (\$75,300); holds the title of five event victories in a season of 11 tournaments, won by the greatest points-margin in the history of the sport (2,420 points); and is dating big-wave legend, Ken Bradshaw, with whom she is a part-time resident in Sunset Beach.

"The fact that I won the world title at Sunset makes it just as special as the first," said 27-year-old Beachley. "Sunset is my favorite place in the world, so to surf it with only a few other girls out and in the six to 10 foot range made it a really special day."

Although Beachley's continued success may appear to come to her effortlessly, her victories have not come without obstacles. Earlier in the season, Beachley suffered from a knee injury while practicing for the U.S. Open. Her doctors instructed her to stay out of the

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water for six weeks, but the determined, sunny-dispositioned Beachley was back in the water after only 12 days.

"It's been a very tough, long and exhaustive year," said Beachley. "I'm very excited to be able to take some time off to enjoy my win!"

And so, the circle of legendary female surf athletes that includes big names like: Margo Oberg, Frieda Zamba, Wendy Botha, Pam Burridge, Pauline Menczer and Lisa Andersen is now a bit bigger -- Beachley style.

For interview and photo opportunities, guest appearances, existing photography, or more information call us at: Cynthia Michel Public Relations (310) 789-6919, Fax (310) 798-6909, or E-mail: [CMPR1@aol.com](mailto:CMPR1@aol.com).

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*The Billabong USA Girls Surf Team, anchored by Beachley and surfer/model, Malia Jones has given way to the spirited Billabong Girls collection of sportswear and accessories. The line has been well received by consumers and the media and is on its way to an outstanding Spring and Summer 2000 season.*