



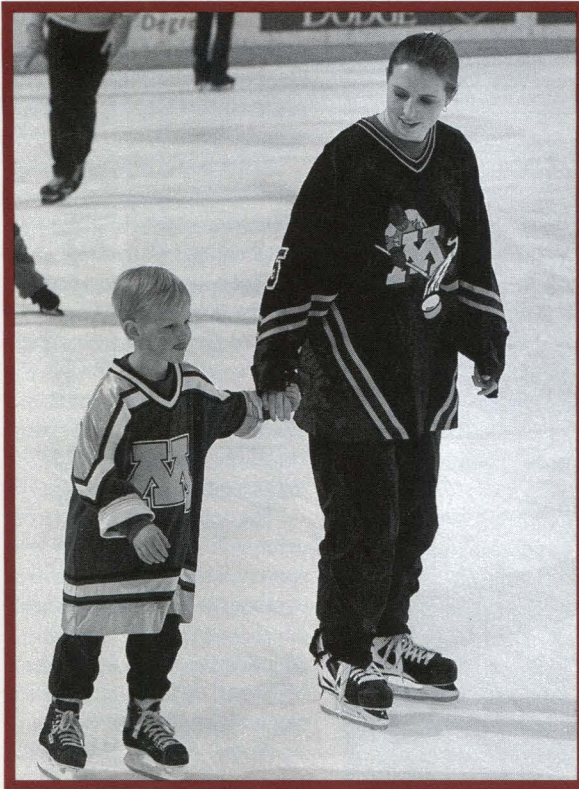
Women's Athletics  
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

# Winners' Circle

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Summer, 1998

The young women of the Women's Athletics Department are much more than student-athletes. They serve as ambassadors to the entire state of Minnesota as seen through the many community outreach programs conducted by the Women's Athletics Department.



The women's hockey team hosted the first "Skate with the Gophers" at Mariucci Arena. Over 350 people showed up for the chance to skate with their favorite Gopher players. Shown above is Dacia Lyons and a lucky fan.



The Women's Athletics Department hosted the Minneapolis Parks and Rec at the Sports Pavilion on May 1. Athletes from five different sports performed a clinic for over 150 kids from the Minneapolis area. Junior basketball player Erin Olson gives some advice to a few youngsters.



Over 50 Minnesota student-athletes spent their Saturday morning planting trees for the St. Paul River project. Hockey players Erica Killewald, Nadine Muzerall and Laura Tryba show off their muscles in breaking ground for a new tree.



Gopher Kids is a new kids club for children ages 13 and under. Senior cross country and track and field athlete Andrea Lentz found a friend at the Halloween costume party at the Sports Pavilion, one of the many Gopher Kids activities throughout the year.

# 1998 Fall Schedules

## 1998 University of Minnesota Volleyball Schedule

<b>AUGUST</b>		
29	ALUMNAE MATCH	7 p.m.
<b>SEPTEMBER</b>		
1	WISC-GREEN BAY	7 p.m.
4-5	at Naval Academy Tournament	
7	at American	7 p.m.
11-12	MINNESOTA NIKE INVITATIONAL	
11	Missouri at Wake Forest	6 p.m.
	Minnesota vs. Oregon	8 p.m.
12	Missouri vs. Oregon	10 a.m.
	Minnesota vs. Wake Forest	noon
	Oregon vs. Wake Forest	6 p.m.
	Minnesota vs. Missouri	8 p.m.
18-19	MINNESOTA DIET COKE CLASSIC	
18	Auburn vs. Marquette	6 p.m.
	Minnesota vs. Rutgers	8 p.m.
19	Consolation Match	6 p.m.
	Championship Match	8 p.m.
21	USA NATIONAL TEAM (EXB)	7 p.m.
25	PENN STATE	7 p.m.
26	OHIO STATE	7 p.m.
<b>OCTOBER</b>		
2	at Iowa	7 p.m.
3	at Wisconsin	7 p.m.
9	at Michigan	7 p.m.
10	at Michigan State	7 p.m.
16	NORTHWESTERN	7 p.m.
17	INDIANA	7 p.m.
23	at Purdue	7:30 p.m.
24	at Illinois	7 p.m.
30	WISCONSIN	7 p.m.
31	IOWA	7 p.m.
<b>NOVEMBER</b>		
6	MICHIGAN STATE	7 p.m.
7	MICHIGAN	7 p.m.
13	at Ohio State	7 p.m.
14	at Penn State	7:30 p.m.
20	at Indiana	7:30 p.m.
21	at Northwestern	7 p.m.
27	ILLINOIS	7 p.m.
28	PURDUE	7:30 p.m.
<b>DECEMBER</b>		
3-6	NCAA First/Second Rounds	
10-13	NCAA Regionals	
17-19	NCAA Finals	

All home matches in caps and bold are played at the Sports Pavilion

## 1998 Minnesota Soccer Schedule

<b>SEPTEMBER</b>		
1	at Cincinnati	5:30 p.m.
6	NEBRASKA	1 p.m.
11	WISCONSIN-GREEN BAY	3 p.m.
13	PURDUE	1 p.m.
18	at Iowa	3 p.m.
21	at Washington State	2 p.m.
25	WISCONSIN	4 p.m.
27	NORTHWESTERN	1 p.m.
<b>OCTOBER</b>		
2	at Michigan State	3 p.m.
4	at Michigan	1 p.m.

9	at Penn State	7 p.m.
11	OHIO STATE	1 p.m.
16	INDIANA	3 p.m.
18	ILLINOIS	1 p.m.
24	at TCU	1 p.m.
25	at SMU	3 p.m.
30	vs. UNLV (Albuquerque, N.M.)	5 p.m.

### NOVEMBER

1	at New Mexico	11 a.m.
5-8	at Big Ten Tournament (University Park, Pa.)	
13-15	at NCAA First Round	
20-22	at NCAA Second Round	
27-29	at NCAA Third Round	

### DECEMBER

4-6	at NCAA Semifinals and Finals	
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All home matches played at the St. Paul Campus Soccer Field located on the corner of Larpenauer and Cleveland Avenues in St. Paul.

## 1998-99 Women's Basketball Schedule

### NOVEMBER

5	EXHIBITION GAME	7 p.m.
10	EXHIBITION GAME	7 p.m.
17	ILLINOIS STATE	7 p.m.
20-22	at Hawaiian Regent Classic (Hawaii, U Mass, Minnesota, TBA)	
28-29	GOPHER CLASSIC (UNLV, Delaware, Western Kentucky)	
28	First round	noon & 2 p.m.
29	Consolation game	1 p.m.
	Championship game	3 p.m.

### DECEMBER

2	at Howard	TBA
4	at Georgetown	TBA
16	at South Florida	7 p.m.
19	at Stetson	TBA
28	at Wisconsin	7 p.m.
30	at Purdue	7:30 p.m.

### JANUARY

3	PENN STATE	2 p.m.
5	IOWA	7 p.m.
10	at Michigan	2 p.m.
15	at Northwestern	7 p.m.
17	INDIANA	2 p.m.
22	at Michigan State	7 p.m.
24	at Ohio State	2 p.m.
29	ILLINOIS	7 p.m.
31	NORTHWESTERN	2 p.m.

### FEBRUARY

5	MICHIGAN	7 p.m.
12	at Iowa	7:30 p.m.
14	at Penn State	2 p.m.
19	PURDUE	7 p.m.
21	WISCONSIN	2 p.m.
25-28	at Big Ten Tournament (Indianapolis, IN)	

All home games in caps and bold and played at the Sports Pavilion  
Times subject to change

## U of M and MSC Sign a New 10-year Deal

The University of Minnesota men's and women's athletics departments and Midwest Sports Channel (MSC) announced an agreement to continue comprehensive coverage of Gopher athletics events for the next decade. The 10-year contract with the University of Minnesota is the longest contract MSC has signed with an organization and provides the Gophers one of the most comprehensive college sports packages in the nation.

"This is a great partnership between the University of Minnesota and MSC," Vice President and General Manager Kevin Cattoor said. "We have been providing coverage of Gopher men's athletics since 1991, and for the women's department since 1993. This contract is a symbol of our commitment to college athletics and the region."

The specifics for the agreement will be refined each sports season, but MSC will continue to provide coverage of selected Gopher women's athletics events. In addition, MSC will continue to produce women's sports specials.

Since 1993-94, MSC has shown 42 live Minnesota women's athletics events and has provided additional Big Ten package or postseason games along the way. MSC has also produced 17 women's magazine shows the past four years. In 1997-98, MSC aired 13 live women's events, including six basketball games and six volleyball matches, and produced eight magazine shows.

"We are thrilled about the continuation of our partnership with MSC and look forward to a great future together," said Chris Voelz, women's athletics director.

## Home Cooking is Successful Recipe at Minnesota

From high school champions to all-state and all-conference selections, they come from all over the state. The comforts of a built-in crowd and family support coupled with the successes of high caliber athletic programs are enough to keep high school standouts in Minnesota for their collegiate experience. Year after year, some of the finest athletes in the state turn down scholarship offers from other top NCAA Division I schools to stay at home and compete for the Golden Gophers.

Nearly half of the female student-athletes at the University of Minnesota hail from the land of 10,000 lakes. Their reasons for choosing to wear maroon and gold are similar: community support, family and friends, outstanding programs with tradition and the feel of a hometown crowd.

Nearly every team in the women's athletics department is made up of fifty percent native Minnesotans. Overall, there are over 120 athletes on 11 women's athletics teams from Minnesota. There are a total of 226 women athletes in the department. The women's golf team contained the most Minnesota athletes with 10 of its 15 members from the home state in the 1997-98 season. The hockey team was a close second with 17 of its 23 athletes hailing from Minnesota.

Head golf coach Kathy Williams is well known in the department for her extensive recruiting in the states of Minnesota and Wisconsin. This year's roster contains all but two athletes not from these two midwest states. Head hockey coach and Plymouth, Minn., native Laura Halldorson feels it is important to keep talented Minnesota athletes in their home state.

"Recruiting Minnesota ath-



**Soccer player Jennifer McElmury, from White Bear Lake, Minn., became the first player in Minnesota soccer history to receive first-team All-America honors. She also was an academic All-American this season, and the 1998 Big Ten Medal of Honor winner.**

letes is definitely a priority for me," Halldorson said. "It is one of our main recruiting philosophies. There is such a great pool of players from Minnesota that continues to grow. In the future, this state will produce some of the most elite players from every local program."

For some of these athletes, the scholarship offers are many, the decision is difficult, but in the end choosing the University of Minnesota turns out to be the best decision.

This year marked the inaugural season for women's hockey at the University of Minnesota. It continues to be a sport that is emerging on the scene. The Golden Gophers were nearly all newcomers or sophomores from Minnesota who could hardly wait to play in front of their family and friends. One of those sophomores was Kris Scholz from Hugo, Minn. Scholz said her decision to attend Minnesota was a "no-brainer."

"I chose to stay at Minnesota because of the pride of Golden Gopher hockey," Scholz said. "I knew this would be a great opportunity and that women's hockey would be a big deal here.

Minnesota also has a great reputation in that they treat the athletes so well."

Scholz has experienced much success as part of the inaugural women's hockey team. In March, the team received an invitation to the first ACHA National Championship held at the prestigious Fleet Center in Boston, Mass. The Golden Gophers finished fourth and Golden Gopher women's hockey was

born.

Another outstanding Minnesota high school athlete was senior soccer player Jennifer McElmury, a native of White Bear Lake, Minn. McElmury said she had no problems choosing the "U" over other top Division I programs. A four-year starter at White Bear Lake High School, the three-time All-American and Academic All-American emerged onto the scene at the "U" and helped Minnesota to three NCAA appearances.

"I came to Minnesota for a couple of reasons," McElmury said. "I wanted to play in front of my friends and family and I was really impressed with the dedication of the coaches to build Minnesota soccer into a national contender. I could have gone to a school with a national powerhouse soccer team, but I wanted the challenge of getting the program at Minnesota to that level."

Head women's soccer coach Sue Montagne says recruiting Minnesota athletes is top priority. Over half of the 1997 soccer team was made up of native Minnesotans.

"Minnesota is one of the leading soccer states in the

country," Montagne said. "The youth programs are so strong and are producing top Division I athletes. We would be crazy if we did not pay attention to the talent the programs of Minnesota have to offer."

Looking back in the history of women's athletics at the University of Minnesota, some of the finest athletes have reigned from the home state of Minnesota. One of the most famous names in recent history is former Golden Gopher gymnast and native of Afton, Minn., Marie Roethlisberger. Roethlisberger was a four-time All-America selection and won Minnesota's only gymnastics national title on the uneven bars in 1990.

Another well-known name in history is former Golden Gopher basketball standout Carol Ann Shudlick, who won a world title with the Columbus Quest of the American Basketball League. While at Minnesota, the native of Apple Valley, Minn., set the school record for points scored at 2,097 during her four-year career and was a Kodak All-American.

Most recently, the swimming and diving team graduated its most decorated swimmer in history in Cologne, Minn., native Gretchen Hegener. The 14-time All-American became the third athlete in Minnesota history to capture an individual NCAA title winning in the 100 breast-stroke and setting an American record in the process.

Whether they come from Redwood Falls, Park Rapids, or Minneapolis, these athletes are some of the most talented in the nation and the state. They have been, and continue to be, the backbone of women's athletics at the University of Minnesota.

## U to Build New Softball Facility with Gift from Cowleses

The University of Minnesota and the Women's Athletics Department will build a new softball stadium, thanks to a generous gift of \$1 million from Sage and John Cowles announced on May 13. The Cowles' donation is the second-largest single gift ever received by the Women's Athletics Department and matches the \$1 million recently appropriated by the Minnesota State Legislature for a new softball facility.

"We believe our match of the legislature's appropriation will produce an excellent small stadium for women's softball," the Cowles said in making their gift. "We are excited about this because we think gender equity—in athletics as elsewhere in life—is important to both men and women."

The new softball facility will be constructed on the Bierman field. The lighted-for-television facility will have both grandstand (bench-back) and stadium (box-chair) seating for 1,000 spectators. Along with the primary playing field complete with dugouts and bullpens, a two-story building behind home plate will include restrooms, food services, athletic training, a substantial press box and team meeting facilities. A ticket kiosk and plaza area will be built at the entrance to the stadium, along with addi-

*The new softball facility will have both grandstand (bench-back) and stadium (box-chair) seating for 1,000 spectators. Along with the primary playing field complete with dugouts and bullpens, a two-story building behind home plate will include restrooms, food services, athletic training, press box and team meeting facilities. A ticket kiosk and plaza area will be built at the entrance to the stadium, along with additional practice facilities. It is expected that the new stadium will be ready for the 1998-99 season.*

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The new softball facility is part of a succession of building projects driven by the Women's Athletics Department. Over the past 10 years, the University of Minnesota has constructed the University Aquatic Center and the Sports Pavilion, and is also in the process of building a women's hockey facility, an on-campus tennis facility and a new soccer stadium. Bierman Athletic Field Building, which houses many of the coaches and administrators for both women's and men's athletics, is also being modestly expanded for women's athletics.

"This extraordinary gift comes from two extraordinary people whose commitment to fairness is exemplary," women's athletics director Chris Voelz said. "We are thrilled to be the beneficiaries, for generations to come, of Sage and John's value-driven generosity."

Sage and John Cowles are among the largest backers of



**Sage and John Cowles are helping the University build a new softball facility with a \$1 million gift.**

Women's Professional Fastpitch, a six-team league in its second season in the southeastern United States. The Cowles also are active in the University of Minnesota community through the Women's Athletics and Dance departments. Sage and John are each President's Club members of Women's Athletics. In the fall, they will be joining the Women's Athletics Advisory Council.

Influential in many cultural arenas in the Twin Cities, the Cowles were among the driving forces behind the Guthrie Theater, the Walker Art Center and the Metrodome. In the mid-

1980s, Sage and John funded the Cowles Conservatory in the Minneapolis Sculpture Garden. Sage has been a member of the Minneapolis Mayor's Commission on Human Relations and has served on the boards of Minneapolis Planned Parenthood, the Merce Cunningham dance company (New York), the Minnesota Dance Alliance and Dance USA. John has also been involved in many civic activities, including serving as a Director of the Minnesota Civil Liberties Union, the Minneapolis Urban Coalition and the Citizens League of Minnesota.

"We are all very excited that Sage and John Cowles stepped up to the plate for the Gophers and we admire their commitment and loyalty to the Women's Athletics Department," head softball coach Lisa Bernstein-O'Brien said. "We will have our own 'Field of Dreams' that will be both attractive to our recruits and fan-friendly to the people of Minnesota."



## Deborah Olson Gives \$900,000 for Soccer

The University of Minnesota and the Women's Athletics Department received a total gift of \$900,000 from Deborah Robbie Olson on May 16, for the building of a new soccer facility to be named after her mother, the late Elizabeth Lyle Robbie, and a second endowed scholarship for a University of Minnesota soccer player. The \$900,000 gift is the third-largest single gift ever received by the Women's Athletics Department. Olson's gift is in addition to the \$1.2 million recently appropriated by the Minnesota State Legislature for a new soccer facility.

"I am privileged to be able to contribute to the continuing success of the Minnesota soccer program and of all women student-athletes at the University," Olson said. "Minnesotans should be proud of the true commitment and leadership our university has shown with its separate women's athletics department and its many accomplishments."

The new facility will seat 1,000 spectators. Along with the primary playing field and practice fields to be shared with the Department of Recreational Sports, a two-story building will contain restrooms, food services, athletic training, media, team and club room facilities. A ticket kiosk and plaza area will also be built outside of the stadium. Due to her experience and expertise, Olson is serving as a consultant on the project. It is expected the soccer facility will be ready for the 1999 season.

"We are so thankful to Deborah Olson for her generous gift to our program," head soccer coach Sue Montagne said. "A new, progressive facility is the final piece in

making Minnesota soccer one of the most complete and successful programs in the country."

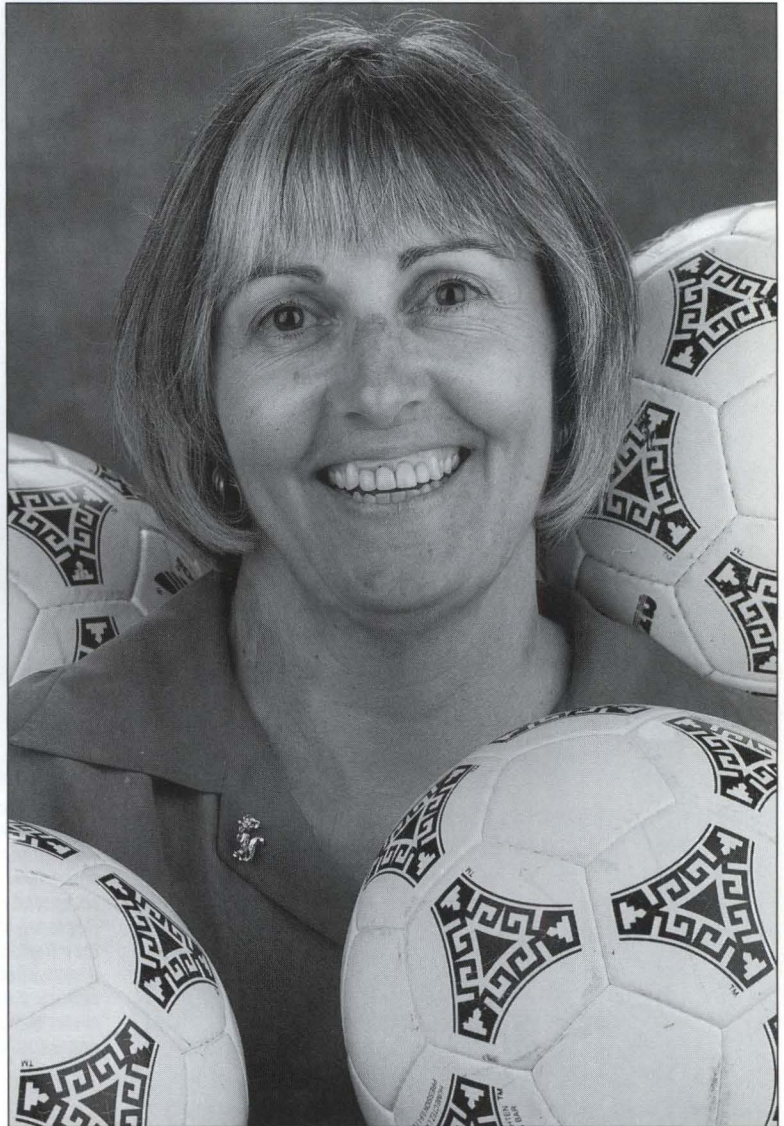
Elizabeth Lyle Robbie became the first female owner of a professional sports franchise in the United States when she purchased the Miami Toros soccer team in the mid-'70s. The Toros then moved to Fort Lauderdale, Fla., before relocating to the Twin Cities and becoming the Minnesota Strikers between the 1983 and 1984 seasons. She owned the team until the franchise disbanded in 1988. During her ownership, the Strikers played for the MISL Championship in 1986.

Olson, a President's Club member of Women's Athletics, already has one endowed scholarship in her mother's name for a University of Minnesota soccer player. Olson is a former volleyball and softball student-athlete at Carleton College. She is actively involved in University of Minnesota Women's Athletics through her leadership on many special events committees, the Advisory Council and the Ice Hockey Task Force.

"My mother left a legacy of strong support for equal opportunities," Olson said. "She believed everyone

should be allowed to succeed at whatever they choose to do—athletically, academically and in all areas of life. Coaches Sue Montagne and Barbara Wickstrand, and the entire soccer program have demonstrated they share this commitment to success and opportunity. They will be wonderful caretakers of this legacy, as will the student-athletes who play in the facility and benefit from the scholarships."

"The women of Minnesota will benefit in a significant and enduring way because of the beliefs, values and generosity of two great fans and friends of soccer and equality for women—Elizabeth Lyle Robbie and Deborah Olson. We are thrilled to accept this gift," women's athletics director Chris Voelz said.

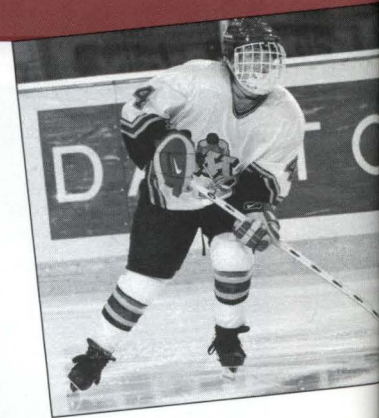


*Deborah Olson contributed \$800,000 for the building of the new soccer stadium to be named after her mother, the late Elizabeth Lyle Robbie. Olson also gave \$100,000 toward a second endowed scholarship for the soccer program.*

## The 1997-98 Season in Review



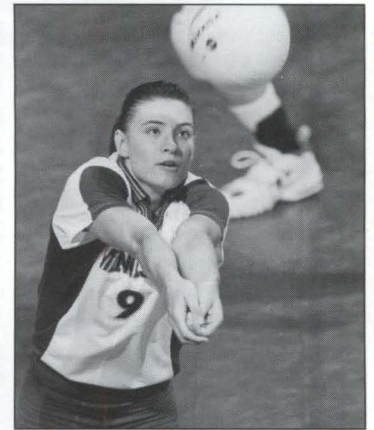
The Gopher gymnastics team won the 1998 Big Ten Championship for the first time since 1991. The Gophers also competed in the NCAA Central Regional in Alabama, where they finished fifth. Lacey Purkat, shown above, was one of six seniors that graced the Gophers' roster this season. Purkat was named All-Big Ten on the beam.



The inaugural season of women's hockey at the University of Minnesota Gophers finished the season with a 21-7-3 record and led to the first-ever AWCHA National Hockey Tournament. The season in front of almost 7,000 fans at Mariucci Arena, traveling to play Eastern powers such as New Hampshire. Head coach Laura Halldorson was named National Coach of the Year. Nadine Muzerall (above) was one of 11 players named to the Kazmaier Award given to the nation's outstanding hockey player.



First-year head coach Cheryl Littlejohn found times tough this season as the Gophers finished with a 4-23 record. The future is bright though for Littlejohn and the Gophers as they have five players, including Brandy Pickens (shown above), and six outstanding recruits joining the program next year.



Senior Jane Passer and the volleyball team finished the season 23-10 overall and 12-8 in the Big Ten, good for fifth place. The Gophers made their second consecutive appearance in the NCAA Tournament, eventually falling to BYU in Provo, Utah.



Jamie Wyffels and the soccer team compiled an 18-3-2 record this season and a perfect 9-0 conference mark in claiming its second Big Ten championship in three years. The Gophers finished the season ranked #13 in the nation after advancing to the second round of the NCAA Tournament. Wyffels was one of seven Minnesota players named to the All-Big Ten team and senior Jennifer McElmury was named All-American both athletically and academically.





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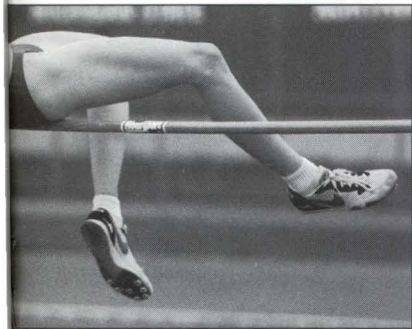
Celebrating her 25th season as coach of the Gophers, Jean Freeman led her team to a 16th-place finish at the NCAA Championships hosted by the University of Minnesota. Pictured above is newcomer Katy Christoferson, who won the Big Ten championship in the 400 IM.



The golf team won three tournaments in the fall and was invited to participate in the 1998 NCAA East Regional competition in Durham, N.C. Minnesota had its best-ever finish at the NCAA East Regionals led by seniors Amy Dahle (left) and Keri Sawvell. Dahle broke the Minnesota record for 18-hole score when she shot a 67 at the Les Bolstad Golf Course in September.



Shannon Beeler and the softball team advanced to the NCAA Regionals, finishing the year with a 48-21 record. The 48 wins ties the most wins ever in the history of the program. Beeler was named first-team All-American, All-Mideast Region and All-Big Ten after hitting .401 with 14 homers and 74 RBI.



High jumper Alissa Bruss helped the track and field team finish seventh in the Big Ten. The Gophers sent throwers Nicole Chimko and Aubrey Schmitt to the 1998 NCAA Championships.



The cross country team had an excellent season as they qualified for the NCAA Championships as a team for the first time since the 1991 season. Minnesota placed 21st at the national meet with Daphne Panhuysen, Anna Gullingsrud and Kari Thompson (pictured) leading the way.

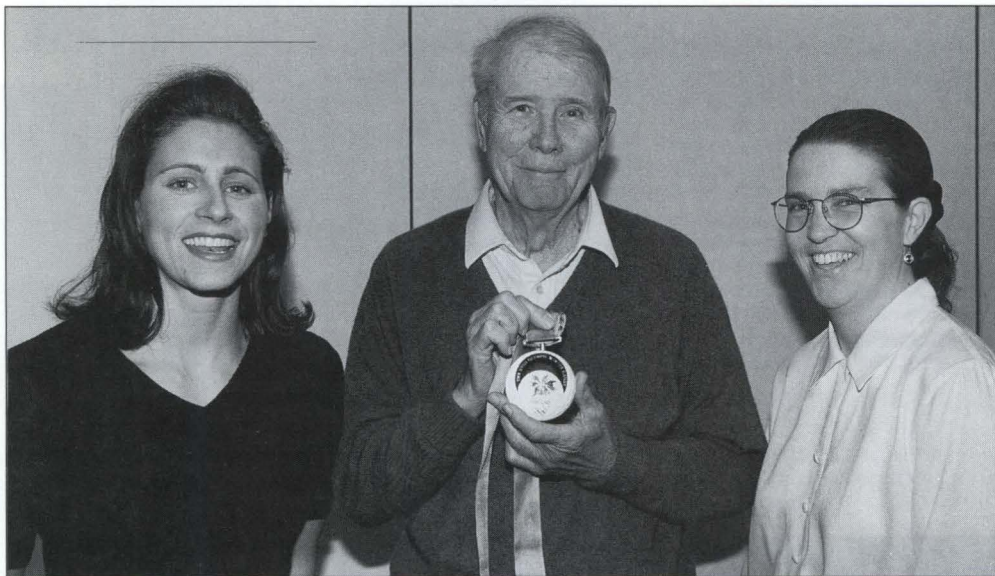


Tammy Wang (pictured above) and the tennis team placed fourth in the Big Ten after compiling an 11-10 overall and 6-4 Big Ten record this season. Nora Sauska was named All-Big Ten for the second consecutive season, while Alice Rangsiithienchai won the Big Ten Sportslike Conduct Award.

## Ridders Give Lead Gift for Women's Hockey Facility



**Kathleen Ridder drops the first puck during the opening ceremonies of the Gophers' inaugural game at Mariucci Arena. Rob and Kathleen Ridder gave \$500,000 to the Women's Athletics Department for the building of a new hockey facility for the women's hockey team.**



**Rob Ridder, meet Alana Blahoski: Ridder holds Blahoski's gold medal from the 1998 Olympic Games. Blahoski, with Minnesota coach Laura Halldorson, played on the women's championship hockey team.**

University of Minnesota Women's Athletics Director Chris Voelz and the Women's Athletics Department announced Nov. 2, that Kathleen and Bob Ridder have donated a lead gift of \$500,000 dollars for the university's new women's hockey program.

The Ridders, who earlier

pledged this gift, are making this donation because of Bob's life-long involvement in ice hockey and Kathleen's abiding interest and support of girls and women in sport. "We contributed to the new women's ice hockey facility and program to join our two interests, providing us with the opportunity to make a sig-

nificant contribution to both ice hockey and women's athletics," the Ridders said.

Their half-million gift, combined with state moneys, allows the University of Minnesota to build new hockey and tennis facilities on campus. To recognize the commitment of the Ridders to the Minnesota women's hock-

ey program, Kathleen C. Ridder will drop the ceremonial first puck at Sunday's inaugural game against Augsburg.

Bob Ridder managed the Olympic ice hockey teams in 1952 and 1956. He was one of the founders and the first president of the Minnesota Amateur Hockey Association. He was elected to the U.S. Hockey Hall of Fame in 1976.

Kathleen C. Ridder has been a longtime supporter of the Women's Athletics Department. She served as the chair of the Women's Athletics Advisory Council from 1984-87 and continues to serve on the council. During the 1986-88 Minnesota Campaign, Kathleen endowed two scholarships, named the Kathleen C. Ridder Scholarship, given to female student-athletes majoring in math or sciences.

While Kathleen served as a co-chair with Stanley Hubbard on the recent On-Campus Sports Facility Project, both Kathleen and Bob were instrumental in the fruition of the Sports Pavilion and new Mariucci Arena.

When the university announced the addition of Gopher women's hockey, the Ridders funded the first-ever endowed scholarship for women's hockey at the University of Minnesota, the Robert and Kathleen C. Ridder Gopher Women's Hockey Scholarship.

"We can't thank the Ridders enough for their special spirit, energy and resources, which all make such a significant difference in our women's program," Voelz said. "This gift makes it possible for the university's women's hockey program to be one of the nation's best."



## Schmidgall Enjoys "Golden" Run with Team USA

Jenny Schmidgall signed her National Letter of Intent to play hockey for the University of Minnesota in November of 1996.

As the first player signed by head coach Laura Halldorson, she was expected to help lead the Gophers during their inaugural season.

Some 18 months later, she is finally preparing for her first season as a Golden Gopher following a season with Team USA which culminated with a gold medal at the Winter Olympics in Nagano, Japan.

The Edina, Minn., native

scored two goals and five points during the six-game Olympic tournament and finished with nine goals and 21 points in 30 games with Team USA.

Schmidgall will be one of three Minnesota natives new to the Gopher program in 1998. She will be joined by Burnsville's Laura Slominski and Willmar's Tracy Engstrom.

That trio will be joined by Crystal Nicholas of Tulsa, Okla., and transfers Shannon and Courtney Kennedy of Woburn, Mass., and Colby College.

## Halldorson Named Coach of the Year

Head coach Laura Halldorson won the first ever National Coach of the Year Award sponsored by The American Women's College Hockey Alliance and the American Hockey Coaches Association. Halldorson, along with runner-up Karen Kay of New Hampshire, was honored May 3, at the AHCA Awards Banquet in Naples, Fla.

Halldorson led the Gophers to a 21-7-3 record, earning a berth in the first AWCHA National

Championship in Boston, where the Gophers finished fourth. Ranked as high as #4 in the nation this season, the Gophers made history as they drew a women's college hockey record crowd of 6,854 spectators for their home opener, an 8-0 win against Augsburg, at Mariucci Arena. The Gophers will have a home of their own soon as Halldorson and the Women's Athletics Department received \$10 million from the state of Minnesota to build a new 3,000 seat hockey facility.

## Inaugural Season Could Not Have Been Any Better

Head coach Laura Halldorson and her Gopher women's hockey team enjoyed quite a ride during their inaugural season.

A women's collegiate hockey-record crowd of 6,852 witnessed the team's first game, an 8-0 win over Augsburg November 2, and the highlights continued with regularity.

The Princeton Thanksgiving Invitational, followed by the team's first top-five national ranking, where they remained for much of the season, came next.

Minnesota went on to post a 20-win season and a fourth-place finish at the first American Women's College Hockey Alliance National Championship and did not lose at home during the final four months of the season.

Individually, Halldorson was named the first women's national coach of the year by the American Hockey Coaches Association.

Nadine Muzerall was one of 11 nominees for the first-ever Patty Kazmaier Award as

the national player of the year, and earned second-team All-American honors along with teammate Brittany Ralph.

Muzerall was also the nation's leader in points-per-game and goals-per-game while linemate Ambria Thomas led the nation in game-winning goals.

"This was a historic season of firsts for women's hockey," said Halldorson, referring to the fact that women's hockey made its first appearance at the Olympics as a medal sport.

In addition, 1998 marked the first time a national tournament was held for, and national awards were presented to, women in college hockey.

Halldorson added that the beginning of Gopher Women's Hockey was also a highlight for women's hockey on a national

level, given the amount of national exposure it brought to the game.

"With our fans and our success, we were able to make a great first impression," Halldorson added. "We put Minnesota on the map in the world of college women's hockey."

A 9-7-3 record against established women's programs from the Eastern Collegiate Athletic Conference, and an overall record of 21-7-3, was a significant indicator of the progress made by the Gophers in their

inaugural season.

"We improved throughout the course of the season," Halldorson said. "By the end of the year we felt comfortable competing against the best teams in the country."

She also added that that experience will help in the future.

With what they have under their belt, and the recruiting class of 1998, Halldorson said, "With the talent we have coming in and the improved game schedule that we have, next year should be very exciting."



Goalie Erica Killewald shut down the opponents in leading Minnesota to the AWCHA National Tournament in Boston.



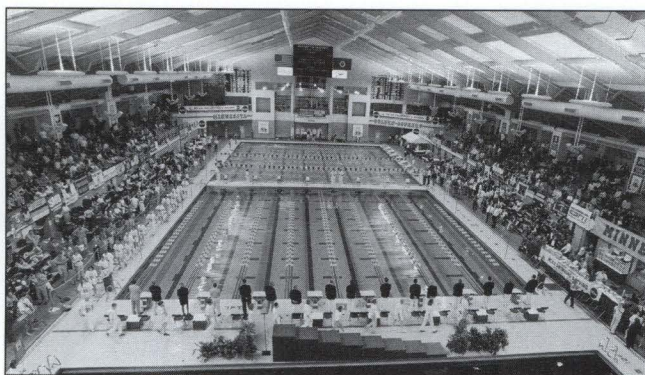
Senior Julie Otto scored the first goal in Minnesota women's hockey history at the 1:55 mark of the opening period against Augsburg at Mariucci Arena.

## 1998 NCAA Swimming and Diving Review

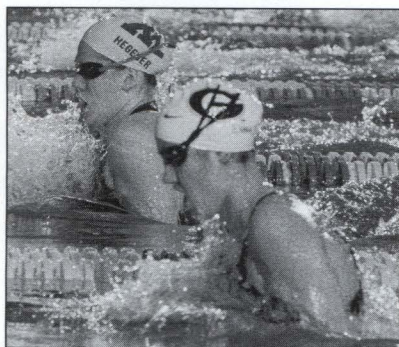
In the fastest meet in NCAA history, Stanford claimed its sixth title in the last seven seasons at the 1998 NCAA Women's Swimming and Diving Championships held at the Dorothy L. Sheppard Pool at the University Aquatic Center on the campus of the University of Minnesota. Arizona, Georgia, Auburn and SMU rounded out the top-five, while Minnesota placed 16th.

During the three-day competition, three American records, five NCAA records and 12 pool records were set in front of huge crowds at the University Aquatics Center. Highlighting the meet was Stanford newcomer Misty Hyman, who won three individual titles and two relay crowns. Hyman set four American records and was named Swimmer of the Meet for her efforts.

Day one saw one American record, one NCAA record and seven pool records set or reset during the course of the day. Stanford's 400-yard medley relay team of Catherine Fox, Elin Austevoll, Hyman and Siobhan Cropper set an NCAA record in a time of 3:33.61. Fox then won her second consecutive NCAA title in the 50 freestyle in a time of 22.21. In 1-meter diving, Vera Ilyina of Texas dominated the event as she outscored her nearest competitor, Jenny Lingamfelter of SMU, by 38 points, 495.70-457.45. Ilyina was named Diver of the Meet as she claimed the 3-meter crown the next day. History of a different sort was also set in the 500 freestyle as Cristina Teuscher of Columbia won in



*Fans from around the nation filled the University Aquatic Center for the 1998 NCAA Women's Swimming and Diving Championships. A special thank you goes to Cathy Forcica, who served as the community chair for the 3-day extravaganza.*



*Minnesota senior Gretchen Hegener battles longtime rival Georgia's Kristy Kowal in the 100 breaststroke at the NCAA Championships held at the University Aquatic Center.*

a pool-record time of 4:35.45. Teuscher's time was the second-fastest mark in history as she became only the second person in history to ever swim under 4:36.00. Teuscher became Columbia's first-ever national champion and the first national champion from an Ivy League school.

Kristy Kowal of Georgia and Hyman were the talk of day two as each set an American record or an NCAA record. The 100-yard breaststroke promised to be the event of the meet as Kowal, the American record holder, and Minnesota's Gretchen Hegener, the defending champion, battled for the new American record and the NCAA title. Kowal got the best of Hegener in an

American and NCAA record time of 59.05 seconds. Kowal became only the second swimmer ever to swim the 100 breaststroke in under 1 minute. Hyman also had a big day as she broke the NCAA record in the 100 butterfly with a mark of 51.34. She then swam the butterfly leg on the 200 medley relay team in setting another NCAA record with a time of 1:37.80, breaking the old record of 1:38.56 set by Auburn earlier this year.

Day three was once again dominated by Hyman as she claimed the 200 backstroke and butterfly titles. Hyman set two pool records in winning her second and third individual titles of the meet. Kowal claimed her second title of the meet in the 200 breaststroke, setting an NCAA record in the process with a time of 2:09.14, and SMU's Martina Moravcova won her third individual title as she claimed the 100 freestyle in :48.81. Moravcova also won the 200 individual medley and the 200 freestyle during the championships.

Georgia head coach Jack Bauerle was named Coach of the Meet, while Texas coach Matt Scoggin earned Diving Coach of the Meet.

## Minnesota Honors Freeman

After a wonderful weekend at the pool featuring the fastest NCAA women's championship in history, the attention shifted to one of Minnesota's own as Jean Freeman was honored for her 25 years as head coach of the Golden Gophers. Over 300 coaches, administrators, student-athletes, alums and fans packed the Radisson Metrodome for a Sunday morning brunch recognizing Freeman and her service to the University of Minnesota and the Twin Cities community.

Led by emcee Stu Issac, guests were given an opportunity to tell their favorite story about Freeman. Then the program took a formal turn as Marty Knight, Eloise Jaeger, alums Terry Nieszner, Chris Curry Whritenour and Diane Wallner Schoeneman, head coaches Susan Teeter and Jim Richardson and current swimmer Gretchen Hegener took their turns to toast the leader of Minnesota coaches.

After a toast from Minnesota Athletics Director Chris Voelz, the announcement of an endowed scholarship at the University of Minnesota in the name of Jean Freeman was made. Freeman, who was deeply touched by the day's events, had her chance to speak thanking many of her family members and friends who helped her along the way. She then led everyone in the singing of the Rouser closing out a very special day for a special woman.

## Development Update

The 1997-98 year has been a great one for Women's Athletics, not only on the playing field but also in terms of charitable giving. This year alone, 17 people joined the Women's Athletics chapter of the University's Presidents Club (\$10,000 over ten years), taking advantage of the "Fire Sale" before memberships increase to \$25,000 (over five years) as of July 1, 1998. This brings the Women's Athletics chapter roster to 89... so far!

We also received the second-, third- and fourth-largest single gifts ever made to Women's Athletics (see related stories). These facility gifts will enable the University and the department to have a full complement of first-class women's athletics facilities, positioning them solidly among the nation's elite programs.

Old Dutch Foods, Inc., the Roseville-based salty snack food manufacturer, became our lead corporate charitable partner this year, with a gift of \$30,000 per year for three years, to go toward operation expenses for Gopher

Women's Hockey as well as a designated Old Dutch scholarship. This initiative is part of a larger University partnership with Old Dutch, as they became the official salty snack food of the "U."

Two new endowed scholarships were added to our existing 18.

This year, we awarded the first Kathleen C. & Robert B. Ridder Endowed

Scholarship for Gopher Women's Hockey and the Jean Freeman Endowed Scholarship (swimming/diving). The hockey scholarship coincides with our inaugural season for Gopher Women's Hockey and is the first hockey-designated scholarship, while the Freeman Scholarship was created through an ongoing campaign to fete our head swimming and diving coach Jean Freeman, who celebrated her 25th anniversary as head



**Old Dutch Foods is one of women's athletics newest sponsors in 1998. Included in Old Dutch's gift is \$20,000 for the women's hockey program and a scholarship given to a University of Minnesota female student-athlete. This year's recipient is softball's Lara Severson. Chris Voelz accepts a check from Old Dutch's Matt Colford and the University's John Walker.**

coach this year. A brunch in Jean's honor was held the day after the NCAA Swimming & Diving Championships, and drew friends and alums from all over the country. More than 250 friends and fans of Jean's contributed to the scholarship fund, which totals nearly \$80,000 (current gifts and pledges).

Gopher Women's Athletics fans had several opportunities to attend special events this year, all of which raised much-needed monies for the

Berg Scholarship Fund. First, November 2 was the Premier Party for Gopher Women's Hockey, preceding the Inaugural Game. Nearly 350 people, including Governor Arne & Susan Carlson, were on hand to toast the new skating Gophers. Next, the Ms. Gopher Silent & Live Auction, held in December, was a great place for holiday shopping and to meet student-athletes and coaches. Most

recently, the Ms. Gopher Golf Invitational was a huge success, with more golfers, better prizes and more corporate involvement than ever before! We can still look forward to September 12, when the second annual Shoot for the Stars will be held. This is a trap-shooting fundraiser to be held at the Metro Gun Club. Last year's event was a "bang," and this year's will be one you don't want to "Ms!"

## Sponsorship Update—Gopher Kids Club!

The 1997-98 year saw the successful launch of the Gopher Kids Club for women's athletics. Nearly 400 members enjoyed the following activities throughout the year:

- **Soccer**— Clinic with team after a game
- **Volleyball**— Halloween Party and meal before match, opportunity to meet athletes from other sports and get autographs
- **Basketball**— Invitation to Family Day; clinic with team and pizza meal in April
- **Softball**— Liberty Classic tickets at the Metrodome where members received a free Coke and hot dog, while enjoying face painting and getting player autographs; clinic with the team
- **Hockey**— A pre-game reception (meal) and chance to meet coach, several hockey players and athletes from other sports; Free admission to "Skate with the Gophers"

- **Gymnastics**— A pre-meet reception (meal), talks by coaches and student-athletes from all sports
- **Swimming & Diving**— An invitation to YES Clinic in conjunction with NCAA Swimming and Diving Championships
- **Year-end event**— May, picnic with athletes and coaches from all sports. Meal and games.
- **Essay Contest**— Enter through contest promoted in newsletter. Winners will be announced in June/July with renewal newsletter for next year.

Gopher Kids was sponsored by Bruegger's Bagel Bakery, ClubKid, Land O' Lakes, Midwest Sports Channel, *Minnesota Monthly*, Perkins, Radio Disney and Target/Kodak Premium Processing.

With the \$15 membership fee, Kids received special offers from the sponsors, 10 free admissions to events, a T-shirt, newsletter and much more! Current memberships expire June 30, 1998 and a new membership drive will begin in August.

## From the Director's Chair: Chris Voelz

Another year is coming to a close fast for the Women's Athletics Department. A year which saw many successes both on and off the playing surface. A year that once again reminded the nation that, although still young and maturing, we are one of the leaders in women's athletics and the drive for gender equity and Title IX. Although we are always striving for more, I thought I would take this time to reflect on the many successes during the 1997-98 women's athletics season:

■ Seven teams— volleyball, soccer, cross country, hockey, golf, gymnastics and softball— and a number of individuals advanced to postseason play this year. The hockey team, in only its first season of being a varsity program, advanced to the inaugural national women's hockey tournament and the softball team came within one game from advancing to the College World Series.

■ The soccer team and the



**Chris Voelz,**  
Athletics Director

women's gymnastics team claimed Big Ten titles this year. Soccer recorded a perfect 9-0 conference record, claiming its second Big Ten title in three years. Gymnastics won its first Big Ten title since 1991.

■ Hockey coach Laura Halldorson was named National Coach of the Year, while soccer coach Sue Montagne, diving coach KZ Li and co-head gymnastics coaches Jim and Meg Stephenson were named Big Ten Coaches of the Year.

■ Soccer's Jennifer McElmury became the first soccer player to earn first-team All-America honors and was named Big Ten Player of the Year for the second consecutive year. Diver T.D. Rowe was the Big Ten Diver of the Year and swimmer Gretchen Hegener became the most decorated athlete in Minnesota history earning her 14th All-America citation this season.

■ Together with the men's

department, the Gophers finished 17th in the nation in the Sears Directors' Cup standings.

■ The Women's Athletics Department had another stellar year in the classroom as they achieved their 19th consecutive quarter of a 3.0 GPA or higher. Also, 53 student-athletes received academic All-Big Ten honors and McElmury and Amber Hegland were named an academic All-Americans.

■ The Women's Athletics Department received \$10 million from the state of Minnesota toward the building of a new hockey/tennis facility. In the spring, we also received another \$3 million from the state for the building of new soccer and softball facilities and expanding the Bierman office building. Additional private funding that made the three building projects possible were through the gifts of \$1 million from Sage and John Cowles, \$900,000 from Deborah Olson and \$500,000 from Rob and Kathleen Ridder. All are now University "builders" and the gifts are three of the four

largest gifts ever received by women's athletics.

■ The Gophers' hosted the 1998 NCAA Swimming and Diving Championships, in what turned out to be the fastest meet in NCAA history. Also celebrated that weekend was the 25th anniversary of Jean Freeman coaching the women's swimming diving program. During that weekend, a new endowed scholarship in Jean's name was introduced for a woman swimmer.

Although there were many more great things to brag about, suffice it to say, it was definitely a year to remember. Thank you to all the student-athletes, administration, fans, parents, boosters and corporate partners who made 1997-98 such a wonderful year. We are all working hard to make next year even better! I look forward to seeing everyone this fall, and do me a favor, tell a friend about us because we're not done yet. The best is yet to come. Go Gophers!

*My best,*

*Chris Voelz*



The Winner's Circle is published by the Department of Intercollegiate Athletics at the University of Minnesota.

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## Elizabeth Lyle Robbie Stadium Dedication

September 26, 1999

The dedication ceremony for the Elizabeth Lyle Robbie Stadium, the new home for the University of Minnesota soccer team, took place on Sunday, Sept. 26, prior to the Golden Gophers' match against Big Ten rival Northwestern.

Deborah Olson, daughter of the late Elizabeth Lyle Robbie and member of Advisory Council and Presidents Club, was in attendance to participate in the dedication celebration. Regent David Metzen, University President Mark Yudof, Women's Athletics Director Chris Voelz and Golden Gopher players and coaches joined Olson in a ceremonial ribbon cutting.

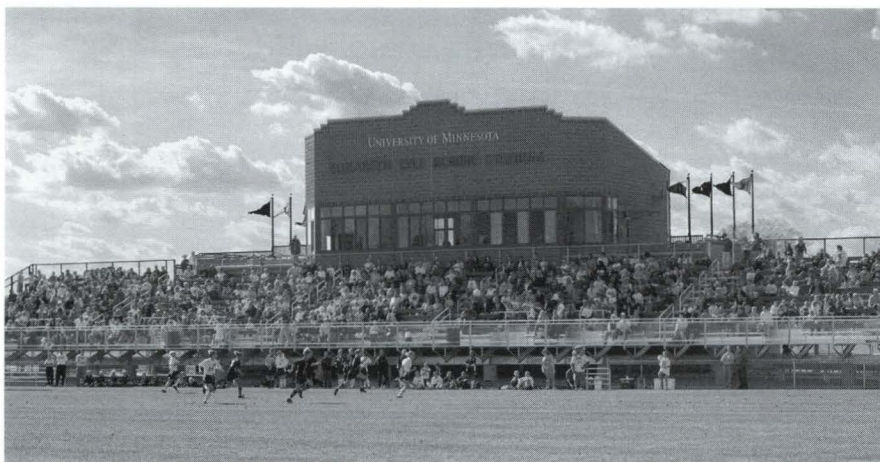
Gates opened at noon for the afternoon's festivities. Fans re-

ceived a commemorative pennant and program.

A \$2.1 million facility, the Elizabeth Lyle Robbie Stadium was funded by a \$800,000 gift from Olson and \$1.2 million appropriated from the Minnesota state legislature. The facility seats over 1,000 spectators. Along with the competition and practice fields, there is a two-story building containing athletic training, media, team and club room facilities, restrooms and food services, as well



Above: Deborah Olson, whose generous gift made the stadium possible, speaks at the dedication about her mother, Elizabeth Lyle Robbie.



Above: Pictured is the newest Women's Athletics facility, the Elizabeth Lyle Robbie Stadium on September 26, 1999, the day of its dedication.

as two patio viewing areas. A ticket kiosk and plaza area were other features built with the stadium.

Elizabeth Lyle Robbie became the first female owner of a professional sports franchise in the U.S. when she purchased the Miami Toros soccer team in the mid-1970s. The Toros moved to Fort Lauderdale, Fla., before relocating to the Twin Cities and becoming the Minnesota Strikers between the 1983 and 1984 seasons. During her ownership, the Strikers played for the MSL championship in 1986.

**Mission Statement:** The Department of Women's Athletics is dedicated to exceeding all others in athletic excellence and academic achievement, to offering compelling experiences to the student-athlete and the community, and to providing a diverse environment steeped in integrity, values and vitality.

# 2000 Spring Sports Schedules

## — 2000 Gopher Tennis Schedule —

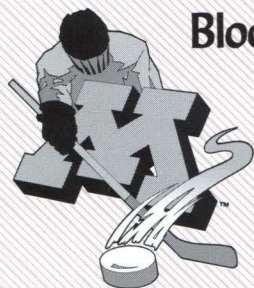
Jan. 28-29	Minnesota Court Classic	
Jan. 28	vs. Pepperdine	6:30 p.m.
Jan. 29	Championship/Consolation	5:30 p.m.
Feb. 4	Drake	6:30 p.m.
Feb. 6	Western Michigan	8 a.m.
Feb. 12	at Harvard	2 p.m.
Feb. 13	at Boston University	9 a.m.
Feb. 25	Ohio State	6:30 p.m.
Feb. 27	Penn State	9 a.m.
March 5	Iowa State	9 a.m.
March 11	at Missouri	9 a.m.
March 12	at Kansas	1 p.m.
March 18	at Michigan	10 a.m.
March 19	at Michigan State	10 a.m.
March 29	at Santa Barbara	11:30 a.m.
March 30	at San Diego	1:30 p.m.
April 7	Wisconsin	6:30 p.m.
April 9	Iowa	10 a.m.
April 15	at Northwestern	10 a.m.
April 16	at Illinois	11 a.m.
April 22	at Indiana	10 a.m.
April 23	at Purdue	11 a.m.
April 27-30	Big Ten Championships (Ann Arbor, MI)	
May 12-14	NCAA Regional Championships (TBA)	
May 18-26	NCAA Championships (Malibu, CA)	

Home matches are played at the Northwest Athletic Club at 98th Street in Bloomington, MN. All times local to site.

## — 2000 Gopher Golf Schedule —

Feb. 25-27	at Midwest Classic (Dallas, TX)
March 13-14	at Peggy Kirk Bell Invitational (Winter Park, FL)
April 1-2	at Myrtle Beach Classic (Myrtle Beach, SC)
April 8-9	at Indiana (Bloomington, IN)
April 15-16	at Iowa (Iowa City, IA)
April 22-23	at Ohio State (Columbus, OH)
April 28-30	Big Ten Championships (Madison, WI)
May 4-6	NCAA East Regionals (TBA)
May 17-20	NCAA Championships (Sunriver, OR)

## WCHA-Women's League Championships



**Bloomington Ice Gardens**

Bloomington, MN

**March 2-4, 2000**

For ticket information,  
please call (612) 624-8080  
or (800) U-GOPHER.

## — 2000 Gopher Softball Schedule —

Feb. 10-13	Metrodome Softball Classic	
Feb. 17	at North Carolina (2)	3 p.m.
Feb. 18-20	at Triangle Classic	
March 3-5	at Texas A&M Tournament	
March 16-19	at Univ. of South Florida Tournament	
March 25	at Akron (2)	1 p.m.
March 27	at Youngstown State (2)	2 p.m.
March 28	at Cleveland State (2)	3 p.m.
March 31	Iowa (2)	2 p.m.
April 1	Northwestern	1 p.m.
April 2	Northwestern	1 p.m.
April 4	at Wisconsin - Green Bay (2)	1 p.m.
April 7	at Michigan State (2)	2 p.m.
April 8	at Michigan	2 p.m.
April 9	at Michigan	1 p.m.
April 12	at Drake (2)	2 p.m.
April 13	at Northern Iowa (2)	3 p.m.
April 16	Creighton (2)	Noon
April 18	Wisconsin - Green Bay (2)	4 p.m.
April 21	at Ohio State (2)	2 p.m.
April 22	at Penn State	6 p.m.
April 23	at Penn State	Noon
April 26	Concordia	6 p.m.
April 28	Indiana (2)	2 p.m.
April 29	Purdue	1 p.m.
April 30	Purdue	1 p.m.
May 6	at Wisconsin	2 p.m.
May 7	at Wisconsin	1 p.m.
May 11-13	Big Ten Tournament (TBA)	
May 18-21	NCAA Regionals (TBA)	
May 23-29	College World Series (Oklahoma City, OK)	

Home games are played at the University of Minnesota Softball Stadium behind the Bierman Athletic Building except the Metrodome Softball Classic. All times local to site.

## — 2000 Gopher Track & Field Schedule —

### — INDOOR SEASON —

Jan. 29	Minnesota Classic	11 a.m.
Feb. 5	Northern Iowa, Minn. St.	11 a.m.
Feb. 11-12	at Husker Invitational	4 p.m./9 a.m.
Feb. 19	Parents Day Open	11 a.m.
Feb. 26-27	Big Ten Championships	9 a.m./10 a.m.
March 3	at Iowa State Qualifier	4 p.m.
March 10-11	NCAA Championships (TBA)	

### — OUTDOOR SEASON —

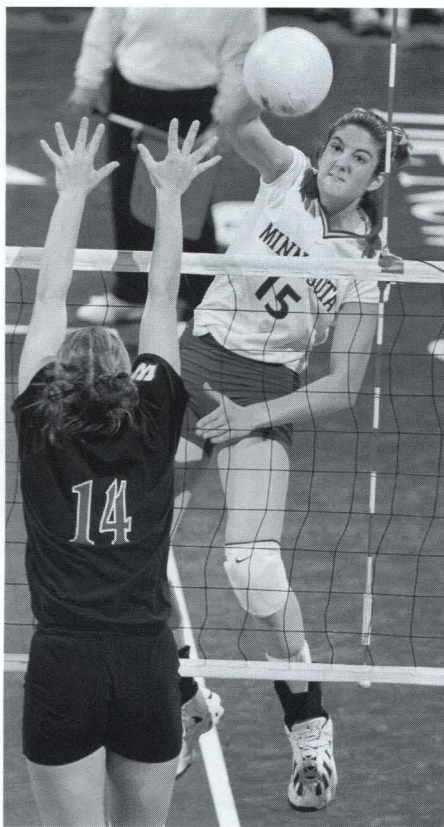
March 23-25	at Arizona State Invitational	TBA
April 1	at Arizona Triangular	TBA
April 7-8	at Texas Relays	TBA
April 13-15	at Mt. SAC Relays	TBA
April 15	at St. Olaf Invitational	TBA
April 28-29	at Drake Relays/at Penn Relays	TBA
May 13	Minnesota Qualifier-tenative	11 a.m.
May 19-21	Big Ten Championships (TBA)	
May 31-June 3	NCAA Championships (TBA)	

Indoor home meets are held at the University of Minnesota Field House; outdoor home meets are held at the Bierman Track & Field Complex. All times local to site.

## Branagh Named an AVCA All-American

Nicole Branagh, a junior outside hitter from Orinda, Calif., become the second Minnesota player in the program's history to receive AVCA All-America honors. Katrien DeDecker was a first-team selection in 1996. Branagh is a two-time member of the All-Big Ten team and a two-time honoree on the AVCA District 2 team.

Branagh led the Big Ten in kills in 1999, becoming the first Gopher since DeDecker in 1993 to accomplish that feat. Branagh led the conference in Big Ten matches (5.57 kills per game) and overall matches (5.43 kills per game). She has accumulated 90 matches of double-figure kills for her career. Branagh was



*Junior Nicole Bragnagh is on track to become the Big Ten's all-time career kill leader.*

Minnesota's kill leader in 29 of Minnesota's 36 matches in 1999, including a career-high 39 kills at Wisconsin. She led the Gophers in kills (679), kills per game (5.43), digs (369) and digs per game (2.95).

Branagh's 679 kills last season are second on Minnesota's all-time single-season list and fourth on the Big Ten's single-season list. She owns 1,736 kills in her career, good for fourth place on the Gopher all-time list and 12th on the Big Ten's all-time career list.

She is on pace to pass DeDecker's career total of 2,300 kills to become Minnesota's and the Big Ten's all-time career kill

leader. She has appeared in and started 100 consecutive matches.

## Sears Cup Ranking Update

The University of Minnesota Men's and Women's Athletics Departments are ranked 13th with 191 points in the Sears Directors' Cup rankings by NACDA (National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics). These standings are based upon the completion of all fall sports, including for Minnesota women's cross country, women's soccer,



and women's volleyball.

Minnesota women's cross country team placed 17th at the NCAA Championships, the women's soccer team advanced into the second round of the NCAA Tournament, and the volleyball team reached the third round of the NCAA Tournament and finished with a No. 16 national ranking.

## Mark your calendars for these Upcoming Events...

### Arizona Event

..... February 18-20  
Gymnastics meets at Arizona State and Arizona; call Jonda Hammons at (612) 624-4319 for more information.

### Big Ten Indoor Track & Field Championships

..... February 26-27  
U of M Field House  
9:00 a.m. Sat./10:00 a.m. Sun.

### NCAA Gymnastics Regional

..... April 1  
Sports Pavilion  
6:00 p.m.

### Softball Stadium Dedication

..... April 29  
U of M Softball Stadium  
1:00 p.m.

### Texas Tuxedo II

..... May 4  
Hilton Minneapolis  
Festivities begin at 6 p.m.

### Ms. Gopher Golf

..... June 5 (tentative)  
Les Bolstad Golf Course  
9:00 a.m.

### Women's Athletics 25th Anniversary Celebration

..... October 22 (tentative)  
Sports Pavilion  
TBA

# Women's Athletics News...

## Women's Athletics in Star Tribune's Top 100 Most Important Sports Figures

Four current or former members of University of Minnesota Women's Athletics were named to the Minneapolis Star Tribune's list of Minnesota's 100 Most Important Sports Figures.

Fifth on the list, and the top female, is golfing great Patty Berg. Named the Associated Press woman athlete of the year three times, she won 51 Ladies Professional Golf Association tournaments.

Berg helped found the LPGA in 1951. She grew up in Minneapolis, where she first gained a reputation as an athlete, playing quarterback for the 50th Street Tigers, a neighborhood football team, where she was a teammate of former Gopher standout and college coaching legend Bud Wilkinson.

A University of Minnesota alum, the Women's Athletics annual banquet is named in her honor. The department also honors all student-athletes who have maintained a 3.0 grade point average for the previous year with the Patty Berg

Academic Award.

Women's Athletics Director Chris Voelz was 22nd on the list, cited for her work in creating and expanding women's sports programs and facilities at the "U".

During her 12-year tenure, academic achievement, athletic accomplishments and fundraising returns have been at an all-time high. The department's overall grade point average has been at or above 3.0 for 23 consecutive terms while there have been four top-10 national team finishes and 21 top-20 finishes.

Linda Roberts, currently an administrative assistant with the Women's Athletics Department, was cited as one of the state's top basketball players.

She led St. Paul Central to the first Class AA high school state championship in 1976 and went on to become the first major star for the Gophers, setting 16 school records, leading the team in rebounding four times and in scoring three times.

A 1996 inductee into the Minnesota Women's Athletics Hall of Fame as well as a two-time Wade Trophy nominee, Roberts still holds

11 school records, including single-season and career rebounding marks.

Junior Winny Brodt, the school's only current male or female student-athlete to make the list, was 85th on the list. The Star Tribune story said, "In the second year of a girls' high school state tournament, Brodt set the standard by which all others would be judged."

During her senior high school season in 1996, in which she was named the first recipient of the Ms. Hockey Award, Brodt scored 60 goals and 126 points while leading Roseville Area High School to a 26-0 record.

She was named the MVP of the inaugural American Women's College Hockey Alliance National Championship in 1998, leading New Hampshire to the title, before returning home to star for the Gophers.

Until a recent injury, Brodt was the team's leading scorer this season. During the school's winter break, she competed with the U.S. Women's Select Team at the Christmas Tournament in Lake Placid, N.Y.

## Arthur Voted Monroe County Female Athlete of the Century

University of Minnesota women's golf coach Melissa Arthur was voted the Monroe County (Indiana) Female Athlete of the Century by the readers of the Bloomington Herald-Times.

Arthur, a native of Bloomington, Ind., is in her first season as coach of the Golden Gophers after spending two years as the assistant men's and women's golf coach at Washington State.

Arthur graduated from Iowa State University as one of the most decorated golfers in Cyclone history. She was a two-time All-Big



*Head Golf coach Melissa Arthur is in her first year at the University of Minnesota.*

Eight Conference selection and earned first-team All-Midwest District honors her senior season.

During her sophomore season, Iowa State won its first-ever Big Eight Conference golf championship. After her collegiate career, Arthur spent a year on the Futures Tour and participated in LPGA qualifying school.

Other candidates for the award were Olympian Missy Schwen, who earned an Olympic silver medal in rowing in 1996; Jill Watson, who competed at the Olympics twice and earned a bronze medal in pairs figure skating in 1988; former professional basketball player Beth Morgan; and Amy McDonald, who competed in both golf and track and field at Indiana University.



## Barbara Wickstrand Named New Head Soccer Coach

Barbara Wickstrand was named the new University of Minnesota head soccer coach, women's athletics director Chris Voelz announced at a press conference on January 27.

Wickstrand, 33, is promoted to the head coach position after serving six seasons as the top assistant coach for the Golden Gopher program. When former Gopher coach Sue Montagne accepted the head coaching position at the University of Georgia last month, Wickstrand was immediately named Minnesota's interim head coach. Wickstrand becomes the second head coach in the seven-year history of Gopher soccer.

"We were looking for a successful coach with passion, knowledge of the game, great rapport with student-athletes, administrative skills and a coach who has national respect and a commitment to engaging the community. We found

all those attributes and more in Barbara Wickstrand," said Voelz. "I feel confident that Coach Wickstrand will keep the best of the past of Golden Gopher soccer, yet



*Former assistant soccer coach Barbara Wickstrand recently accepted the the U's head coaching position.*

put her own stamp on an even more achieving future."

Over the last six years, Wickstrand has played an integral role in building the Gopher soccer program to Big Ten Conference and national prominence. Minnesota has merited NCAA Women's

College Cup appearances in each of the last five seasons, advancing into the second round the past three years. The Gophers captured Big Ten titles in 1995 and 1997, becoming the first Conference school to record an undefeated regular-season mark in league play in 1997.

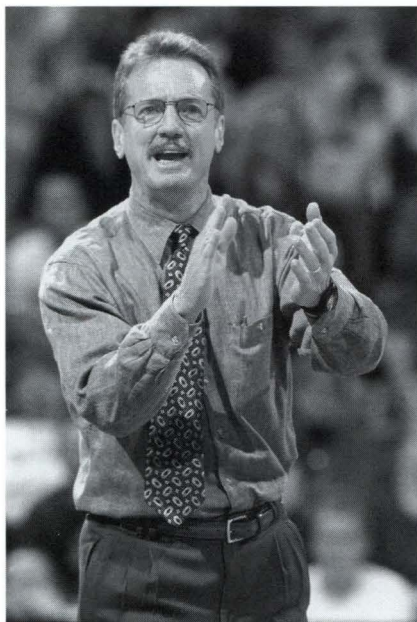
As the Gophers' recruiting coordinator, Wickstrand brought several exceptional recruits into the fold. Gopher players Nicole Lee and Laurie Seidl are Wickstrand recruits; both have earned multiple all-conference honors. Seidl was also named Big Ten Newcomer of the Year in 1997.

"I am honored and enthusiastic to continue my coaching career at the University of Minnesota," said Wickstrand. "I feel fortunate to have worked with Sue (Montagne) and to have been a part of this successful program. Now, I'm even more grateful to be able to put my signature on this program and continue the winning tradition."

An All-America goalkeeper, Wickstrand starred at North Carolina State from 1984-87. A native of Fairfax, Va., she began coaching during her fifth year, serving as the Wolfpack's goalkeeper coach, when N.C. State was the 1989 national runner-up. She graduated with a bachelor's degree in speech communication in 1989.

After a stint playing semi-professional soccer in France in 1989-90, Wickstrand returned to North Carolina State and completed a master's degree in sports management/marketing in 1992. Prior to accepting the assistant coaching job at Minnesota in 1994, Wickstrand spent two years in an intensive athletic administration internship program at Arizona State.

As the second head coach in Minnesota soccer history, Wickstrand inherits a program that has posted an impressive 97-42-9 record in seven seasons as an intercollegiate varsity program.



*Head volleyball coach Mike Hebert received two Coach of the Year awards for the 1999 season.*

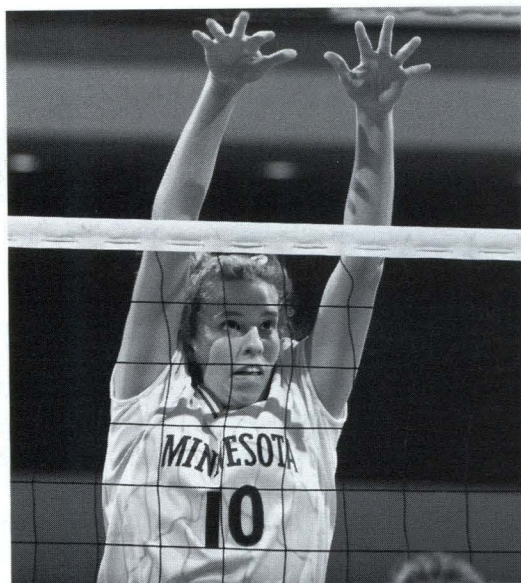
## Hebert Receives Coach of the Year Honors

Minnesota volleyball head coach Mike Hebert won his fourth Big Ten Coach of the Year award and his first AVCA Region 2 Coach of the Year honor after leading the Golden Gophers to a 15-5 Conference record and a second-place Big Ten finish. The team's overall record of 27-9 is the second-best in school history, and the squad's 15 conference wins was also a new standard.

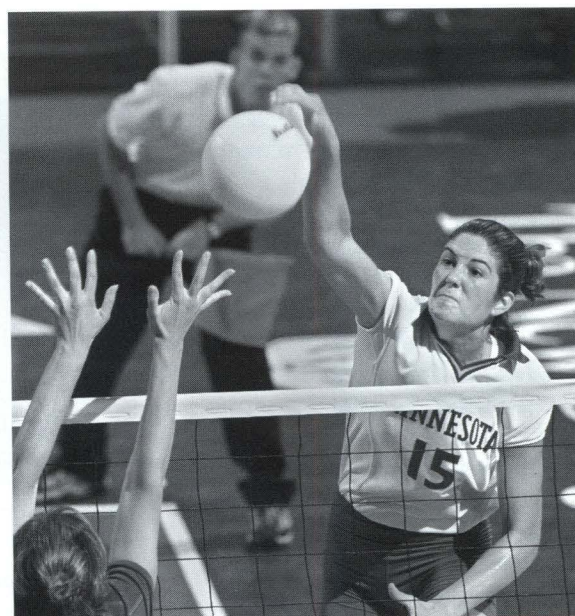
Hebert was named Coach of the Year by both the Big Ten coaches and selected media. Minnesota was ranked in the final nine national polls of the season and finished with a season-high ranking of 16th, matching the best finish in school history.

# Fall Sports Review

- 24 athletes were named Academic All-Big Ten for fall sports: nine cross country runners, ten soccer players, and five volleyball players



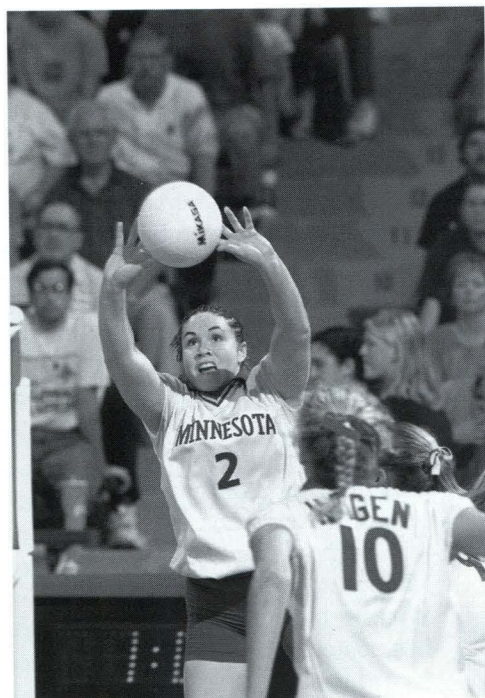
*Above: Middle blocker Stephanie Hagen achieved All-Big Ten first team honors and AVCA All-District honors.*



*Above: Outside hitter Nicole Branagh was selected as an AVCA All-American (see story on page 3).*

## Volleyball

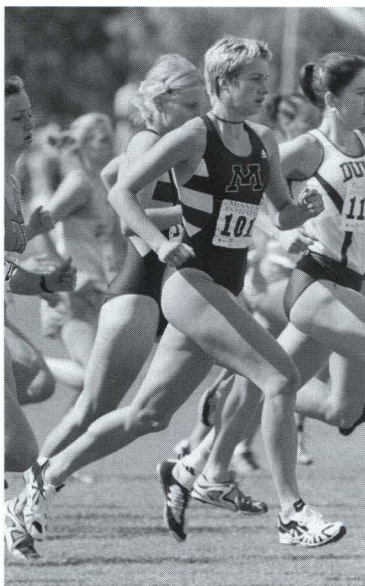
- The Gophers won two non-conference tournaments, the Nike Invitational and the Diet Coke Classic
- Junior Nicole Branagh was named the Big Ten Player of the Week three times and was named AVCA National Player of the Week on October 11
- Nicole Branagh, Lindsey Berg and Stephanie Hagen were named to the All-Big Ten first team while coach Mike Hebert was honored as the Big Ten Coach of the Year
- Minnesota advanced to the "Sweet Sixteen" in the NCAA Tournament after an incredible comeback victory against Southern California in the second round
- Nicole Branagh, Lindsey Berg and Stephanie Hagen earned AVCA All-District honors, while Mike Hebert was named the AVCA District 2 Coach of the Year (see story on page 5)
- Golden Gopher Volleyball finished second in the Big Ten with an overall record of 27-9 and ranking of 16th in the country, matching their best ranking in school history
- Total attendance at Golden Gopher volleyball matches ranked ninth in the nation



*Left: Setter Lindsey Berg earned All-Big Ten first team honors and AVCA All-District honors.*

## Cross Country

- Minnesota hosted the prestigious Roy Griak Invitational, when the Gophers turned in a third-place finish against some of the nation's toughest competition
- The Gophers placed first in three regular-season meets: the Minnesota Triangular, the Blugold Invitational, and the Iowa State Memorial Invitational
- Senior Rasa Michniovaite and junior Elaine Eggleston earned All-Big Ten honors
- Minnesota placed third at the Big Ten Championships for the third straight year
- The Gophers earned a bid to the NCAA Championships for the third consecutive year, finishing 17th place



*Above: Cross country runner Rasa Michniovaite was an All-Big Ten selection for the 1999 season.*

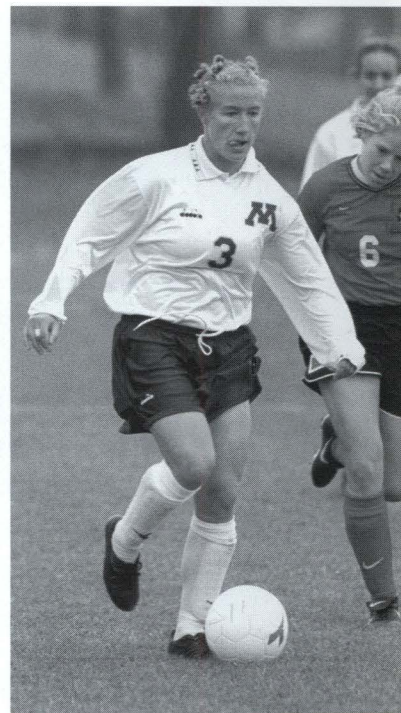


*Above: Cross country runner Elaine Eggleston was an All-Big Ten selection for the 1999 season.*

## Soccer

- Minnesota's new soccer facility, the Elizabeth Lyle Robbie Stadium, was dedicated on September 26 (see story on page 1)
- Sophomore Juli Montgomery was named to the All-Big Ten first team, while senior Nicole Lee and junior Lauria Seidl were named to the second team
- Senior Nicole Lee became the third Gopher in history to surpass 100 points in a career, finishing the season with 118 points, good for third place on Minnesota's all-time list
- The Gophers earned a bid to the NCAA Tournament for the fifth consecutive year, advancing to the second round after defeating Eastern Michigan at home in the first round
- Golden Gopher Soccer finished fourth in the Big Ten (6-4) with an overall record of 13-9-0
- Total attendance at Golden Gopher soccer matches ranked first in the Big Ten

*Below: Defender Juli Montgomery was named to the All-Big Ten first team for the 1999 season.*



*Above: Forward Nicole Lee was the third player in Gopher history to exceed 100 points in her collegiate career.*

# Fall Auction

**O**n November 12, 1999, Women's Athletics held its Ms. Gopher Silent & Live Auction at the Marriott City Center. All proceeds from this event benefitted the Berg Scholarship Fund which provides financial assistance to women student-athletes in pursuit of excellence in athletics and academics at the U of M. This year's Auction Committee was co-chaired by Marlene Hildebrandt and Deborah Olson and members included Cathy Forcica, Susie Goldstein, Doug Addison, Natasha Friemark, Diane Achterkirch and Gina Dante. Women's Athletics thanks everyone who helped make this event a success!

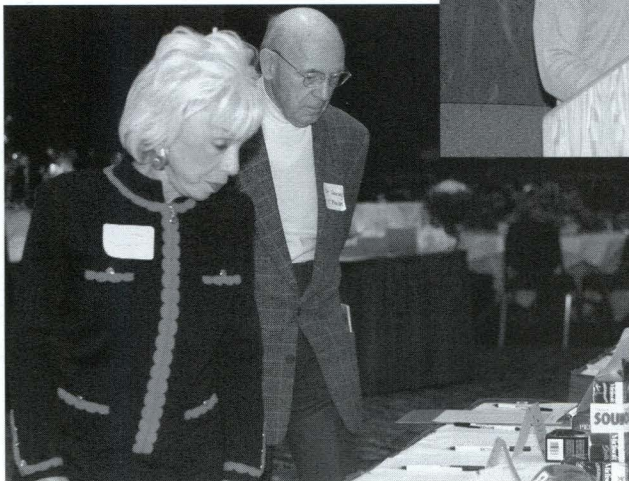


*Above: Women's Athletics donors and fans Kathleen and Robert Ridder show a jersey from an inaugural women's hockey season.*



*Above: Volunteer and alumna Shelly Medernach (SB '81) entertains guests on the piano. Left: Vikings cornerback Jimmy Hitchcock greets auction attendees. Below: Softball student-athletes Jordanne Nygren and Michelle Bennett present John Oravis with his softball auction trip.*

*Above: Fall Auction Committee Co-Chair Deborah Olson, Auction Committee member Cathy Forcica and Committee Co-Chair Marlene Hildebrandt take time from their duties to pose for a picture. Below: Donors and fans Dorothy Dolphin and Dr. Harvey O'Phelan peruse auction items.*



# Homecoming



*Above:* Women's Athletics lifelong friends and alumnae Mary Lampe ('44) and Eloise Jaeger ('39). *Upper right:* Featured speaker, alumna Sandy Boss (PE '69) greets the group gathered at the homecoming reception.



On October 29, 1999, Women's Athletics celebrated Homecoming, which was a great celebration of the past, present, and future of women in athletics. There were over 50 years of women's athletics history represented in the Sports Pavilion Clubroom that night. Guests such as Eloise Jaeger, Mary Lampe and the Class of 1959 filled the room with great stories of the past. Steph Polly, Jen Fox, and Jennifer Bauer attend Homecoming for the first time and plan to make it an annual event like the Class of 1959. Thanks to all who came and we look forward to sharing even more memories next year!



*Above:* The Class of '59 gathers every year at Minnesota's Homecoming. *Right:* Featured speaker, alumna Steph Polly (GY '95), gives her remarks during the reception.



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## Texas Tuxedo II — the Party Returns! Yeeha!

Keep your belt buckles polished for Texas Tuxedo II coming May 4, 2000! The festivities will take place at the Hilton Minneapolis (10th and Marquette Avenue) and will include live boot-stomping entertainment, tasty southwestern cuisine, a hoot-hollering live and silent auction and celebrity Emcee Michele Tafoya. See y'all there!



Ms. Women's Athletics  
University of Minnesota

TEXAS  
Tuxedo II



# Development/Fundraising

## A Campaign Case Statement for Women's Intercollegiate Athletics

In 1975, three years following the enactment of Title IX (part of the 1972 Federal Education Amendments), the University established a separate department to serve female student-athletes. Today, the University maintains separate athletics departments – one of only six in Division I-A – in order to provide superior academic and athletic experiences for its student-athletes and a unique empowering experience for women.

Women's Athletics is poised and committed to being a strong contributor to the overall University community and to greet the 21st century as a leader among the nation's intercollegiate athletics departments.

As Campaign Minnesota gets underway, Women's Athletics is looking for the following opportunities (1-4) to be funded through private donations. With private donations, we will be able to "take our game to the next level" and consistently be one of the nation's top ten women's academic/athletics programs in all sports.

### **Opportunity #1: Center of Excellence**

**The Center of Excellence for Athletic Medicine, Wellness and Performance Enhancement—Cost of \$1 million (can be funded as a whole or in separate parts).** With cutting edge strength training, health and wellness programs, and rehabilitation machines, the Center of Excellence will enable the Women's Athletics Department to reach beyond standard training regimes for the performance edge. Including special equipment, an advanced therapies seminar, and an

endowed intern position, the Center will work to strengthen the physical development of the female student-athlete, including agility, power, balance, flexibility, and overall fitness.

### **Opportunity #2: Endowed Internships and Scholarships**

**Diversity Internships— Three endowed internships at \$110,000 each.** Women's Athletics is committed to diversifying the pool of qualified sport administrators. The interns will rotate through the units of sports marketing, sports informa-

Women's Athletics becomes the beneficiary in a will, living trust or retirement plan. Planned giving can provide for future endowed scholarships and positions, operational expenses, professional development, or internships.

### **Opportunity #4: Facilities and Equipment Enhancement**

**Rowing Shells, Ergometers, and Oars— Cost of \$550,000.** As we launch a new sport, and start to compete with established rowing programs, it is essential to have the necessary equipment, such as

shells, ergometers, and oars. Although the rowers themselves are the most important component of the race, the availability of first-rate racing equipment is equally important to a crew.

### **Peik Gym Training Pit –**

**Cost of \$100,000.** This new training apparatus will give the coaches and student-athletes the best equipment for the optimum training of advanced skills.

**Sports Pavilion Enhancement with educational emphasis – Cost of \$200,000.** Through technology, we will be able to make the Sports Pavilion even more fan and field trip friendly. Our vision includes educating fans through interactive computers, educational kiosks, a wall of honor display, and achievement banners.

### **Les Bolstad Golf Course Team Locker Rooms – Cost of \$50,000.**

The historic U of M Les Bolstad Golf Course provides an excellent place where our women can practice and play. Although a top-notch course, a cosmetic enhancement for the locker rooms will provide a needed face-lift for the team room.

<b>Growth in Minnesota Women's Athletics ...</b>			
	<b>1975</b>	<b>1985</b>	<b>1998</b>
Number of Sports	10	9	11
Number of Student-Athletes	101	134	277
Number of Athletic Contests	sportsday	175	298
Number of Coaches	13	22	30
Number of Professional Staff	20	41	64
Overall Budget	N/A	\$2.1 million	\$8.8 million

*Staggering growth has occurred in Women's Athletics since the 1970s.*

tion, development, and athletic administration to experience the operation of a top-25 athletics department.

### **Student-Athlete Endowed Scholarships –Five endowed scholarships at \$110,000 each.**

Presently, we have 23 endowed scholarships, of which 10 are attached to a certain sport. The other 13 go to student-athletes in any sport, but of certain majors or meeting other criteria. With the recent addition of hockey and the forthcoming of rowing, we need to emphasize endowed scholarships in hockey and rowing – although endowments in any of the 12 sports are welcome.

### **Opportunity #3: Secured Future of the Department through Planned Giving**

**Planned gifts for a total of \$430,000.** In order to secure the future of our female student-athletes, we need an increased number of planned gifts where

## Income for Life or Tax Benefits...

*Does this sound too good to be true?*

It's not if you are thinking about making a planned gift to Women's Athletics. Many options for giving can provide financial benefits to you, while also helping secure the future of our female student-athletes.

The Charitable Gift Annuity, Charitable Remainder Trust, or a Charitable Bequest are the most common planned giving methods. With a Gift Annuity you will receive guaranteed payments for the rest of your life. Two tax benefits make this a very popular plan. First, you'll receive a current income tax deduction. Second, part of each payment we make to you is tax-free.

The Charitable Remainder Trust can provide maximum impact—today and in the future. The Charitable Remainder Trust, when used as a planning tool in conjunction with highly appreciated low-yield assets, can result in a 100% bypass of capitol gains tax, a charitable income tax deduction, an increase in current income, a reduction in estate taxes, and long-term benefit

for family and Women's Athletics.

Many individuals utilize the personally prepared will to communicate specific wishes—including the permanent support of a charitable organization. A charitable bequest can be made in a number of ways, including a fixed amount, specific property, or a percent of the estate.

The following Heritage Club members have made a planned gift to Women's Athletics and share the passion of women in sport: Mrs. Esther T. Buechner, Mr. Richard P. Burke, Dr. Linc G. Ekman & Wanda Peets-Ekman, Miss Arline S. Fredsall, and Robert & Kathleen C. Ridder. It is

never too early to think about the future, especially if it can turn into an opportunity to express your hopes and dreams for the future.

For information on any of these planned giving methods, please call the U of M Foundation Office of Planned Giving at (612) 624-1052 or call Jonda Hammons at (612) 624-4319. We will go out of our way to make giving to the U a very easy process!

*(Contributed by Jonda Hammons, Coordinator of Fundraising and Development)*

**Share your passion of women in sport through planned giving.**

## Parent and Alumnae Campaign

This fall, Women's Athletics will be celebrating its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Over the last 25 years, parents and alumnae have played an integral part in the success of

*These campaigns honor the past, present and future of Women's Athletics!*

Women's Athletics. In an effort to honor both the past and the future of the department, we are announcing the Parent and Alumnae

Campaign 2000!

The Alumnae Campaign could ultimately provide a book scholarship to one student-athlete in each of the 11 sports! Currently a book scholarship or studyship costs \$600 per year. With 80% participation in the campaign, alumnae will be able to award a student-athlete from their sport a book scholarship for the year 2000-2001. It is a competition, so get ready to corral your fellow alumnae and give to the future of your sport!

Current and past parents of Gopher student-athletes have gathered together as a committee to rally other parents to give back for the Parent Campaign.

*Look for the Alumnae and Parent Campaign in your mail mid-February!*

Through athletics their daughters learned important life skills, received an education, and had the opportunity to compete at a Big Ten/ institution. Parents can give to the campaign in the form of an annual donation or a book scholarship. Look for this mailing and consider giving in your daughter's name!

*(Contributed by Jonda Hammons, Coordinator of Fundraising and Development)*

## Women's Gymnastics NCAA

### Region 2 Championships



April 1, 2000, 6 p.m.



Sports Pavilion

For ticket information, please call (612) 624-8080 or (800) U-GOPHER.

# From the Director's Chair — Chris Voelz

Wow! What an exciting fall for Women's Athletics! Our year began with a wonderful dedication ceremony for the Elizabeth Lyle Robbie Stadium, the new home for the University of Minnesota Soccer team. We then enjoyed watching our soccer, volleyball and cross country teams progress to the NCAA championships. For the fifth consecutive year, the soccer team advanced to the second round of the NCAA Tournament. The cross country team finished in 17th place at the NCAA championships. The volleyball team advanced to the "sweet sixteen" by defeating Southern California in the second round of the NCAA Tournament in what many described as one of the finest comeback victories in tournament history. Mike Hebert, Head Volleyball Coach, and Nicole Branagh were decorated with well-deserved honors (see articles on pages 3 and 5). The strong finishes by our fall sports contributed to a 13th place ranking for the Women's and Men's Athletics Departments in the Sears Directors Cup.

In addition to the numerous athletic achievements of our student-athletes and coaches, preliminary reports indicate that our student-athletes again performed well in the classroom,

achieving a cumulative 3.0 GPA or higher for the 24th consecutive term. We also set a new Minnesota soccer attendance record at our first home match of the season and led the Big Ten in attendance, while setting a record in season ticket sales and gate receipts. The new soccer stadium and the athletic prowess of the team make for a great fan attraction! Additionally, we topped \$100,000 in gate receipts for volleyball and placed 9th in the nation in volleyball attendance.

This fall also brought significant change related to the organizational structure of athletics at the University of Minnesota. As of December 1, 1999, both Women's and Men's Athletics began to report to Tonya Moten-Brown, Vice President for Administration and Chief of Staff. As we transition to this new organizational structure, we will continue to ensure high quality experiences for our student-athletes. During times of significant organizational change, some individuals may speculate about the future of the organization. At this time, I've been reassured that the University will continue to support separate Women's and Men's Departments and there are no immediate plans to merge the departments. In various casual

conversations with student-athletes, I've heard them express their appreciation for separate departments. Many of them have said that our facilities are some of the best in the country, that their Athletics Director knows their name and that they appreciate the attention and focus they receive from all in the department making them feel valued and important. With this in mind, we strive with enthusiasm and optimism toward the following winter/spring goals:

- to make a smooth successful transition to new reporting lines, and counterpart in Men's Athletics
- to hire a new Soccer Head Coach (accomplished before going to print with this publication!)
- to hire our first Rowing Coach
- to keep the hockey/tennis/weight room project alive through education, advocacy and alliance
- to develop and secure a budget that shows appropriate growth and support enhanced competitiveness
- to review and recommend possible changes in the compensation plan

We look forward to an exciting and rewarding semester and to seeing you at our events! As always, thanks for your support. Go Gophers!

*my best,  
Chris Voelz*



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UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

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Women's Athletics  
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

# Winner's Circle

Summer 2000

M/W  
8/25/90

## NATIONAL CHAMPIONS!

When the University of Minnesota women's hockey team travelled to Boston, Mass., for the American Women's College Hockey Alliance National Championship, March 24-25, it was a relief just to be there.

Following a heartbreaking, 2-0, loss to Minnesota-Duluth in the championship game of the Western Collegiate Hockey Association tournament, the Golden Gophers had to wait for two weeks before receiving an invitation to the AWCHA Championship.

Minnesota's opening opponent in Boston was the same UMD team the Gophers had beaten just once in five previous tries.

Few people gave Minnesota a chance to beat the Bulldogs. In practice the day before the two teams met, Gopher junior right wing Nadine Muzerall fell to the ice and was taken by ambulance to a nearby hospital. With the nation's leading goal-scorer apparently sidelined, a Minnesota win seemed unlikely.

With only a stiff and sore neck

from her fall, Muzerall was cleared to play late in the day and things were looking up for the Gophers. That was, however, until UMD grabbed a 2-0 lead early in the second period.

was the difference in the 3-2 victory.

The jubilation of beating the Bulldogs was tempered by the fact that Minnesota would face top-ranked Brown in less than 24 hours for the national title.

The Gophers again gave up the game's first goal, but came roaring back with four straight goals. The run which was capped off when Muzerall and Winny Brodt scored less than a minute apart early in the third period, giving their team a 4-1 lead en route to a 4-2 victory and the first-ever national title for a women's team at Minnesota.

Muzerall, Brodt and Courtney Kennedy were named to the all-tournament team and

Killewald, who stopped 74 of 78 shots in the tournament, garnered most valuable player honors.

With their first championship season behind them, the Gophers now look forward to 2000-01, a season which will see the first NCAA-sponsored women's ice hockey championship. With 18 of 20 players returning, Minnesota expects to be in the hunt for the national title again.

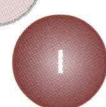


The victorious Gopher hockey team celebrates its first national title after defeating Brown 4-2 for the AWCHA Championship.

Sore neck and all, though, Muzerall carried the team into the late stages of the game, scoring a second-period goal while falling to the ice and a third-period power-play goal which tied the game.

Despite being outshot 16-5 in the final period, the Gophers received a stellar effort from junior goalie Erica Killewald and sophomore Tracy Engstrom's power-play goal with 6:45 to play in the game

**Mission Statement:** The Department of Women's Athletics is dedicated to exceeding all others in athletic excellence and academic achievement, to offering compelling experiences to the student-athlete and the community, and to providing a diverse environment steeped in integrity, values and vitality.



## Jane Sage Cowles Stadium Dedication

April 29, 2000

The dedication ceremony for the Jane Sage Cowles Stadium, the new home for the University of Minnesota softball team, was Saturday, April 29, prior to the Golden Gophers, game against Big Ten rival Purdue.

Jane Sage Cowles and her parents, Sage and John Cowles, participated in the dedication celebration.

University President Mark Yudof, Women's Athletics Director Chris Voelz, Minnesota softball co-head coaches Lisa Bernstein and Julie Stander, and Golden Gopher seniors Dana Ballard and Michelle Bennett joined the Cowles family in a ceremonial ribbon cutting.

The day began with activities

for children adjacent to the stadium. Fans entering the stadium received a commemorative bat and program. To conclude the ceremony, sky divers from Twin Cities Skydivers delivered the ball for the ceremonial first pitch.

A \$2.1 million dollar facility, the

Jane Sage Cowles Stadium was funded by a gift of over \$1 million dollars from the Cowles family and

\$1 million dollars appropriated from the Minnesota state legislature. The facility, constructed around the previous Bierman field, features stadium (box-chair) seating and grandstand (bench-back) seating for 1,000 spectators.

Along with the primary playing

*"We believe our match of the legislature's appropriation produced an excellent stadium for women's softball. We are excited about this because we think gender equity — in athletics as elsewhere in life — is important to both men and women."*

*— Sage and John Cowles, in making their gift for Jane Sage Cowles Stadium*



*The crowd watches the dedication ceremony at Jane Sage Cowles Stadium, the newest Women's Athletics facility.*

field complete with dugouts and bullpens, a two-story building behind home plate houses many amenities. The second level features a clubhouse for hospitality and game management, a media and multi-purpose room and a deck. The first level contains team rooms, an athletic training facility and public concessions and restrooms.

Jane Sage Cowles is the daughter of Sage and John Cowles. She was a collegiate softball player at Utah State University, and was one of the founders of the Women's Professional Softball League (WPSL). The Cowles are among the largest backers of the WPSL. Jane's love of the sport of softball was the reason the Cowles family became involved in both the professional league and softball at the University of Minnesota.



*Lifelong Women's Athletics friends and generous donors Sage and John Cowles pose with their daughter, Jane Sage Cowles, after whom the stadium is named. Jane threw the ceremonial first pitch.*

## Big Ten Champions, Again



*Gopher Swimming & Diving team celebrates its repeat Big Ten championship at the close of the conference meet in Indianapolis.*

The Minnesota women's swimming and diving team successfully defended its Big Ten championship on Feb. 16-18 at the IU Natatorium in Indianapolis. The 1999-2000 women's swimmers and divers are the second team in the history of the Minnesota Women's Athletics Department to repeat as Big Ten champions.

For the second consecutive season, the Gophers overwhelmed the Big Ten Conference with balanced scoring in nearly every event to win the conference title. Minnesota scored 562.5 points, the lowest score for a Big Ten championship team since 1986. The Gophers defeated Michigan, the Big Ten champion from 1987-98, by 61.5 points in the three-day meet.

Junior Katy Christoferson won Minnesota's lone individual championship. She was the top qualifier and the winner of the 400 individual medley in 4:19.50. In the trials, she set a personal-best of 4:16.78, missing the varsity record

by .53 of a second. Christoferson set Minnesota's only varsity record of the meet, placing third in the 200 IM with a time of 2:02.03.

Christoferson earned All-Big Ten honors by virtue of her title in the 400 individual medley. Two of the three at-large selections came from the Gopher squad. Senior Kelsey Hegener placed second in both the 100 and 200 breaststroke events, and owned Minnesota's only NCAA automatic qualifying time (100 breast-1:02.25). Senior Terri Jashinsky scored individually in three finals, including a second-place finish in the 100 butterfly.

Minnesota received two other second-place finishes in the meet. Junior diver Tracy LaVoi tied for second in 3-meter diving. The 800 free relay team ended the second day of the meet with a strong second-place finish. The relay team of Jinny Smedstad, Dana Baum, Amy Cottrill and Jenny Hennen gave Minnesota added momentum to finish its championship run.

## Mark your calendars for these Upcoming Events...

### Soccer Home Opener

..... August 25  
vs. Nebraska  
Elizabeth Lyle Robbie Stadium  
7:00 p.m.

### Volleyball's Diet Coke Classic

..... September 15-16  
Sept. 15 vs. Tennessee @ 8 p.m.  
Sept. 16 vs. Seton Hall @ 1 p.m.  
Sept. 16 vs. Akron @ 8 p.m.  
Sports Pavilion

### Cross Country's Roy Griak Invitational

..... September 23  
featuring several of the best  
collegiate teams from across the  
nation!  
Les Bolstad Golf Course  
Noon

### Golf's Lady Northern

..... Sept. 29 - Oct. 1  
Les Bolstad Golf Course  
action begins at 10:00 a.m.

### Hockey Home Opener

..... October 15  
vs. St. Cloud State  
Mariucci Arena  
3:05 p.m.

### Women's Athletics 25th Anniversary Celebration

..... October 28-29  
Sports Pavilion  
festivities run all day — stay  
tuned for more information!

Visit our website at  
[www.gophersports.com](http://www.gophersports.com)

# Women's Athletics News...

## Wendy Davis Named New Gopher Head Rowing Coach

Wendy Davis was named the new University of Minnesota head rowing coach, Women's Athletics Director Chris Voelz announced at a press conference on April 25. Davis began her duties immediately, preparing the Golden Gophers' newest sport for intercollegiate competition starting in the fall.

Davis, 42, brings an exceptional coaching resume to the new Minnesota program. After collegiate coaching stints at Stanford and Yale, Davis has spent the last three years coaching national team members in preparation for the 2000 Olympic Games.

"I look forward to the challenge of making the University of Minnesota a national power in women's rowing," said Davis.

"I am pleased that, beginning today, I can bring my experience and knowledge to Minnesota," Davis adds. "I am proud to be the newest member of such a quality women's athletics department and commit the rowing program to excellence on the water, in the classroom and in the community."

"Wendy brings a wonderful set of credentials to Minnesota, including the technical skills, a proven record and a passion for excellence, that will undoubtedly jump-start our rowing program," said Voelz. "We can't wait for her to begin. She is simply a find!"



*New rowing head coach Wendy Davis and Athletics Director Chris Voelz display the logo for rowing, Minnesota's newest varsity sport.*

Prior to accepting the position at Minnesota, Davis directed all aspects of training for U.S. National Team members Cindy Brooks and Emily Dirksen. Davis was also a member of the Women's Olympic Rowing Committee in 1997.

From 1993-97, Davis was the head coach at Yale, leading the

Bulldog women's team to a top-five national ranking in each of her four years with the program. Her squad finished fifth at the first NCAA Rowing Championships in 1997. More than 80 rowers per year competed in the Yale program during Davis' reign as head coach.

In her 10 years at Stanford, Davis was the women's novice coach from 1983-91 then served as head women's rowing coach from 1991-93. In 1992, Davis led the Cardinal to a second-place varsity eight finish at the Pacific Coast Championships.

Davis competed in collegiate rowing at UCLA, earning team MVP honors in 1982. Davis graduated from UCLA in 1982 with a bachelor's degree in Spanish and Linguistics, then began her coaching career as the Bruins' women's novice coach in the 1982-83 season.

Davis and her husband, John, have two children: John (10) and William (5).

Women's rowing became an NCAA championship sport in 1997. The Big Ten Conference added women's rowing as its 25th championship sport this year. The first Big Ten Championships was April 29, in Madison, Wis. Minnesota joins six other Big Ten schools that sponsor women's rowing.

## Top Five Scholar Athletes Honored

The top five scholar athletes for Women's Athletics were announced April 24 at the annual University of Minnesota Scholar-Athlete banquet at International Market Square.

Junior gymnast Megan Skokut has a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 4.00 in the College of Biological Sciences. The two-time Academic All-Big Ten award winner is majoring in biology and has made the Dean's List in every term of college. Skokut posted two scores of 9.90 on the uneven bars in

the 2000 season.

Junior cross country and track runner Corrine Nimtz has a cumulative GPA of 3.92 in the Carlson School of Management. The two-time Academic All-Big Ten honoree is majoring in marketing. She contributed to Minnesota's 17th-place finish at 1999 NCAA Cross Country Championships. This year, Nimtz broke the school record in the indoor 5,000 meters and finished 16th at the NCAA Indoor Track and Field Championships.

Senior cross country and track runner Minna Haronoja has a

cumulative GPA of 3.86 in the College of Liberal Arts. The three-time Academic All-Big Ten honoree is majoring in international relations. Haronoja was a tri-captain of the 1999 cross country team.

Sophomore golfer Marilee Dahlman has a cumulative GPA of 3.81 in College of Liberal Arts. She is majoring in English.

Junior cross country and track runner Hayley Singer has a cumulative GPA of 3.80 in the College of Liberal Arts. A tri-captain of the cross country team, she is majoring in political science.



## Seniors Jashinsky and Kennedy Honored with Top Awards

Senior swimmer Terri Jashinsky was presented the Big Ten Medal of Honor, while hockey player Shannon Kennedy was honored as the Senior Athlete of the Year at the University of Minnesota Women's Athletics' annual Berg Awards Banquet held April 17.

The Big Ten Medal of Honor is the highest award bestowed upon a student-athlete in the Big Ten Conference. Each Big Ten school selects a senior student-athlete who represents the best achievements in areas of academic excellence, athletic achievement and leadership.

Jashinsky, a native of Menomonee Falls, Wis., completed a stellar collegiate

career with 12 All-America honorable mention selections. In her signature event, the 100-yard butterfly, she earned All-America citations with a 13th-place finish at the 1999 NCAA Championships and a 15th-place showing in 2000. She was also the 1999 Big Ten champion and 2000 runner-up in the event.

Jashinsky earned All-Big Ten accord twice in her career and contributed to Big Ten team titles in 1999 and 2000, the first conference titles for her sport in Minnesota history. In her four-year career, the Gophers finished in the top 25 in the nation each season.

A 2000 team captain, Jashinsky is pursuing a degree in kinesiology. She is a two-time Academic All-Big Ten honoree.



*Faculty Representative Mariah Snyder and Athletics Director Chris Voelz pose with swimmer Terri Jashinsky, the 2000 Big Ten Medal of Honor winner.*



*Hockey player Shannon Kennedy accepts the Senior Athlete of the Year award presented by Athletics Director Chris Voelz.*

The Senior Athlete of the Year award is voted on by the student-athletes. The award recipient is chosen for her performance athletically and academically as well as character and leadership abilities.

Kennedy spent two seasons with the Gopher women's hockey team after transferring from Colby College (Maine). In her second season, the Woburn, Mass., native and education major was the only senior on the Minnesota squad that made history by winning the first national team title in the history of Minnesota Women's Athletics.

A co-captain of the national champion Gophers, Kennedy was selected as the 2000 Western College Hockey Association — Women's League Student-Athlete of the Year. In addition to her WCHA All-Academic team honors, she performed at crunch time on the ice, placing eighth in the nation with five game-winning goals. She finished her career at Minnesota with 24 goals and 65 points.

## Sears Director's Cup Final Standings for 1999-2000

Minnesota finished 19th in the 1999-2000 Sears Directors' Cup final standings, marking the fourth time that the Golden Gophers have placed in the top 20 in the award's seven-year history.

The all-sport award, presented by Sears and the

National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics (NACDA) honors Division I schools with points based on their finish in NCAA Championships.

The Gophers finished fifth among Big Ten schools in 1999-2000, trailing Michigan (3), Penn State (4), Ohio State (14) and Wisconsin (17). Minnesota's best all-time finish in the Sears

Directors' Cup was 14th in 1993-94.



# Winter/Spring Sports Review

- 60 athletes were named Academic All-Big Ten for winter and spring sports: 14 athletes from track & field, 7 gymnasts, 7 softball players, 6 golfers, 3 tennis players, 8 hockey players, 14 swimmers/divers and 1 basketball player

*Below: Gymnast Megan Beuckens competed in the all-around at the 2000 NCAA Championships in Idaho.*

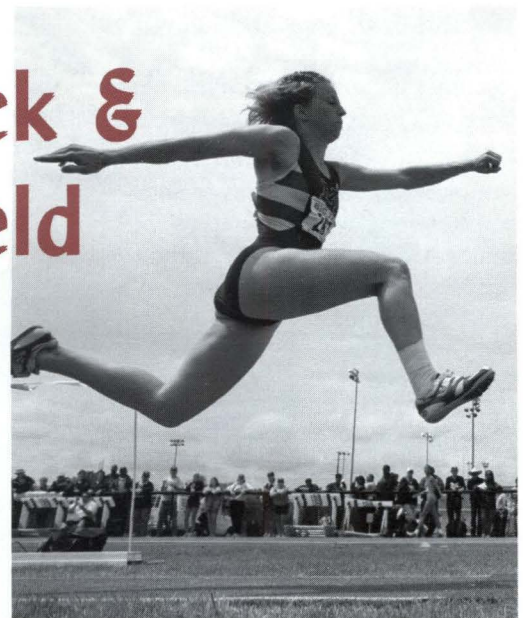


## Gymnastics

- The Gophers advanced to the NCAA Regional Championship for the fifth straight season where they placed fourth
- Sophomores Megan Beuckens and MaryAnne Kelley were each named the Big Ten Gymnast of the Week during the season
- Megan Beuckens placed first in the floor exercise at the NCAA Regional Championship and qualified to compete in the all-around at the NCAA National Championship where she finished in 25th place
- Four gymnasts received All-Big Ten honors; Judy Cavazos, Leigh Dixon, Megan Beuckens and MaryAnne Kelley

## Track & Field

*At right: Christine Gulbrandsen won her 3rd career Big Ten triple jump title at the Outdoor Championships.*

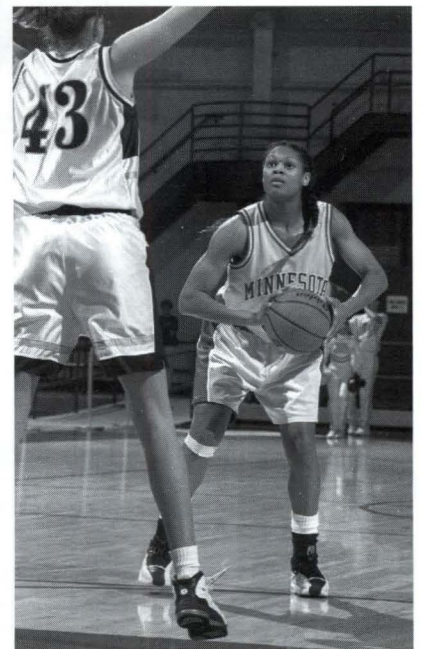


- Minnesota placed second at the 2000 Big Ten Outdoor Championship with a school-record total of 118 points
- The Gophers had three Big Ten champions in the outdoor season, Aubrey Schmitt (shot put), Christine Gulbrandsen (triple jump) and Linda Lindqvist (javelin), and two champions in the indoor season, Christine Gulbrandsen (triple jump) and Beth Howard (weight throw)
- Four Gophers competed at the NCAA Championships this spring, Aubrey Schmitt in the shot put and discus, Nicole Chimko in the discus and javelin, Beth Howard in the hammer throw and Corinne Nimtz in the 10,000 meters
- Aubrey Schmitt earned All-America honors in both the indoor and outdoor shot put

## Basketball

- Senior Erin Olson became the 10th player in Minnesota history to record over 100 assists finishing with 131 assists in the 1999-2000 season
- Frosh Lindsay Lieser broke the school record for three-pointers in a season with 66
- Minnesota tallied the most wins for a Gopher women's basketball team since the 1994-95 season

*At right: Senior center Moneeke Bowden was a pivotal player for the Golden Gopher team this season.*



# Winter/Spring Sports Review

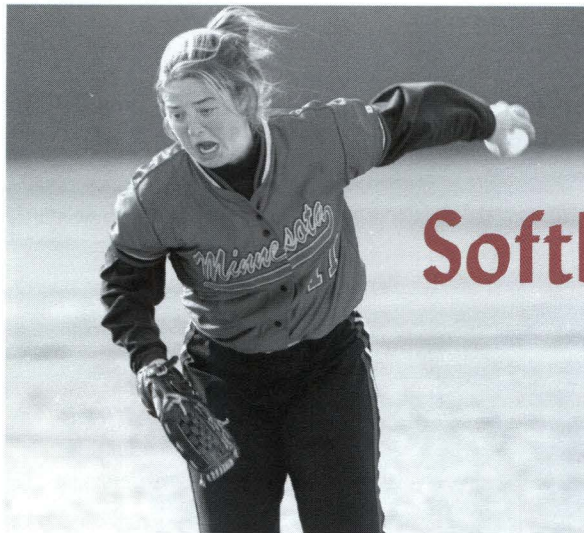
## Schmitt Named Academic All-American

Minnesota junior Aubrey Schmitt (Hastings, Minn./Hastings), a three-time All-American in the shot put, was named to the at-large GTE Academic All-America second team.

A four-time Big Ten champion in the shot, Schmitt carries a 3.50 grade point average and is majoring in biology. She was one of just three Big Ten student-athletes to earn a spot on either the first, second or third team and the conference's only track and field representative.



*Above: Thrower Aubrey Schmitt adds another honor to her long list of awards.*

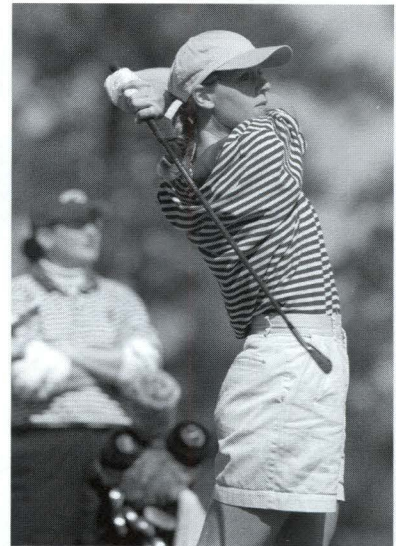


## Softball

*At left: Pitcher Angie Recknor set several team records as a first-year athlete.*

- First year pitcher Angie Recknor pitched a perfect game against Akron in March, only the second Gopher in history to do so
- Sophomore Jordanne Nygren was named to the NFCA All-Region first team and earned GTE/CoSIDA Academic All-District honors
- The Gophers tallied a winning record for the fifth consecutive year

## Golf

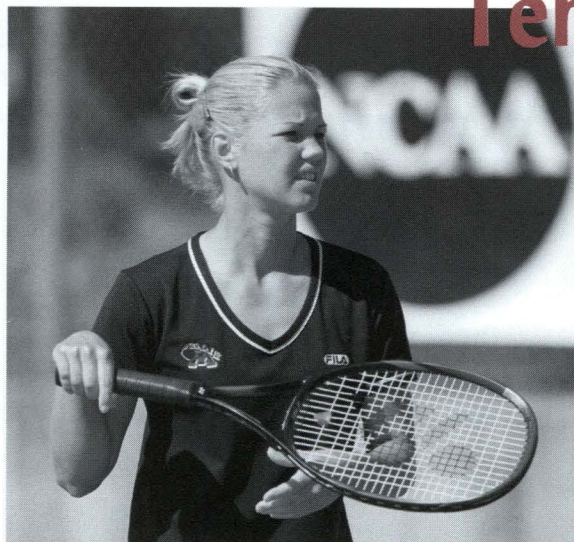


*Above: Junior Katie Bakken led the Gopher team in scoring during the 2000 season.*

- The Gophers placed ninth at the Big Ten Championships, led by junior Katie Bakken who finished in 11th place
- Katie Bakken earned medalist honors at the Peggy Kirk Bell Invitational in March

## Tennis

*At right: Senior Nora Sauska finished her career as a Gopher by setting a school record in singles wins.*



- Head coach Martin Novak was named the Big Ten Coach of the Year
- Senior Nora Sauska earned her fourth All-Big Ten honor while teammate Sandra Olsen earned a spot on the All-Big Ten team and was named the Big Ten Tennis Rookie of the Year
- The Gophers placed second in the Big Ten after advancing to the championship match of the Big Ten Tournament

# Texas Tuxedo II

**Y**eeha! On Wednesday, May 4, 2000, Women's Athletics hosted the best party north of the border as Texas Tuxedo II stampeded into town. This year's gala event raised the floorboards of the Hilton Minneapolis & Towers and raised over \$90,000 for women student-athletes at the University of Minnesota.

Hosted by University President Mark Yudof, the evening featured celebrity emcee Michele Tafoya, scrumptuous Tex-Mex cuisine, a silent and live auction, and Marcia Ball in concert.

Women's Athletics is much obliged to everyone who helped make this event a boot-stomping success!



*Above: Women's Athletics Advisory Council Chair and Texas Tuxedo II Committee member Linda Mona and University President and Texas Tuxedo II host Mark Yudof pose for a photo during the silent auction.*



*Above: Celebrity emcee Michele Tafoya welcomes Texas Tuxedo II guests along with Goldy and members of the James-Younger Gang.*



*Below: WCCO's Marc Rosen reports live from Texas Tuxedo II.*



# Texas Tuxedo II



*At left: Auctioneer Kurt Johnson and Judy Yudof entice Texas Tuxedo II guests with the live auction item of a Presidential Brunch for 10 guests at Eastcliff. The winning bid for the brunch was \$1,300.*

*Below: Student-athlete volunteers, adorned in their Texas Tuxedo II garb, pose with members of the Minnesota Old West Society.*



*Above: Athletics Director Chris Voelz yucks it up with Gold Country's Ron Leafblad during the silent auction.*



*At right: Texan vocalist and musician Marcia Ball and her band end the evening with a punchy, bluesy performance.*



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## Golf fore Women's Athletics

The 19th Annual Ms. Gopher Golf Tournament was held on Monday, June 5 at Les Bolstad Golf Course. With a field of over 140 golfers, the fundraiser raised over \$20,000 for the Berg Fund. Golfers enjoyed a great day of golf and were entertained by coaches and student-athletes on the course.

The overall winner of the tournament was a foursome of Deborah Olson, John Kapsner, Chris Drake and George Anastos with a score of 64. Second place went to Studio Five with a score of 65. The 19th-place award went to Coca-Cola's foursome consisting of Dave Morgan, Shelly Pauley, Amy Muchinski and Craig Hammer with a score of 74.

The winner of the first Coca-Cola vs. Old Dutch award was a close battle, but Old Dutch's foursome of Bob Bemmels, Leslie Bowman, John Walker and Jerry Phroener pulled it off.

Thanks to all golfers and sponsors for supporting this year's Ms. Gopher Golf Tournament.

## Thanks to our 2000 Texas Tuxedo II Sponsors:

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# 25th Anniversary of Women's Athletics

## Hall of Fame Nominations Now Being Taken

The department of Women's Athletics initiated a Hall of Fame in 1985 as part of its Ten Year Gala Celebration and inducts a new class every five years. The class of 2000 will be inducted into the Hall of Fame concurrently with the Department's celebration of its 25th Anniversary on October 28.

Below are the criteria for nomination. Please note that athletes who participated before the department was officially formed in 1975 are also eligible for induction in a category for "pioneers in women's athletics."

Nominations for consideration should be submitted by August 15, 2000. Please contact the media relations office at (612) 624-3335 request a nomination form.

We are excited about the fourth induction into the Women's Athletics Hall of Fame. Your help in nominations will ensure that we have outstanding candidates for the induction in the fall of 2000. If you have any questions, please contact Becky Bohm, Sports Information Director, at (612) 624-1023 or [bohmx002@tc.umn.edu](mailto:bohmx002@tc.umn.edu).

### HALL OF FAME CATEGORIES

I. For significant accomplishment by

a University of Minnesota woman athlete.

Must have been a letterwinner. Must have achieved at least one of the following: Olympic or National team member or medalist; World or American record holder; World champion, national collegiate champion or top-four finish, All-American; two-time Big Ten champion or Big Ten Medal of Honor recipient. Must be a representative example of student-athlete, demonstrate character and leadership. Must be a college graduate whose eligibility expired during the 1994-95 academic year or before.

II. For significant achievement by a University of Minnesota Women's Athletics Coach or Administrator

Must have served as coach/administrator for a minimum of five years. Must have achieved any of the following: national collegiate championship title or top-four finish; three Big Ten Championship titles; extraordinary long-term contribution to the success of women's intercollegiate athletics either at the University of Minnesota or nationally through personal endeavor, leadership and sacrifice over a period of years. Eligible a minimum of five years after having left the employ of the department.

III. For significant contribution to Women's Intercollegiate Athletics at the University of Minnesota by someone other than an athlete, coach or administrator

Must have made extraordinary contribution of time, talent or resources in benefit of the women's athletic program.

IV. For significant professional achievement by a former woman athlete at the University of Minnesota

Must have been a letterwinner. Must have received state, national, or international recognition for professional contributions and/or leadership in her chosen field of endeavor. Must be a college graduate.

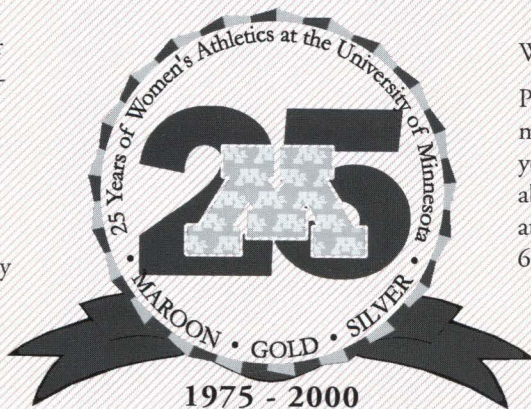
V. For significant achievement which pioneered women's athletics

Must have dominated in a sport during the pre-NCAA era. Must have been a school record holder and/or an exceptional athlete in more than one sport. Must have received the highest honors available during the era in which she participated. Must have been a letterwinner if letters were awarded at that time. Must be a representative example of student-athlete, demonstrate character and leadership. Must be a college graduate.

## Celebrate with us!

The festivities will take place October 28-29 during Minnesota's Homecoming and include:

- guided tours of Women's Athletics' facilities
- a special dinner
- Hall of Fame induction ceremony on October 28 at the Sports Pavilion
- and much, much more!



Women's Athletics is celebrating its 25th!

Package deals will be available and a menu of events is coming soon! Watch your mailbox for more information about this celebration, visit our web site at [www.gophersports.com](http://www.gophersports.com) or call (612) 624-6587.

## Wilson's Way —

### How a Coach Made a Difference in Fundraising

When head cross country and track and field coach Gary Wilson spoke at April's Inner Circle dinner, he had a message that caught everyone in attendance by surprise.

Athletics Director Chris Voelz had, just a short time earlier, given the group an update on fundraising efforts for a new hockey/tennis/weightroom facility. Faced with the task of raising the final \$1.2 million in just eight weeks, she was looking for, and found some, large donations, but needed more.

Wilson did the math and came up with a plan that would bring together a number of smaller donors into one large donation.

He told the crowd that the

**Coach Wilson stirred grassroots support throughout the department and community.**

men's and women's tennis teams, who currently practice and play

at the Northwest Athletic Club in Bloomington, spend 200 hours, five full work weeks, each season commuting to and from practice.

To solve this problem, which would give those two team's a new home, as well as the women's hockey team, and provide a large and well-equipped weightroom for women's athletics, he proposed that

people donate \$2,500.

The donation, which he pointed out, could be spread over five years and would cost just \$19.24 per paycheck. After a heartfelt speech on the topic, and following his own donation, several people joined up. Within

weeks, Wilson's Way had accumulated over \$50,000, accounting for nearly five percent of the total which needed to be raised.

A 15-year member of the staff at Minnesota, Wilson had the best year of his tenure with the Gophers. He led the cross country team to a 17th-place finish at the NCAA Championships, tying for the team's best finish in 17 years. In track and field, Wilson's squad finished third at the Big Ten Indoor Championships and second at the Outdoor Championships, marking the team's best-ever finish at both meets.



*Coach Gary Wilson initiated a fundraising campaign for the women's hockey/tennis/weightroom facility.*

## The Bye Endowment

The Peggy Mac Innis Bye Scholarship, the newest of Women's Athletics 26 endowed scholarships, was established by Julianne Bye and announced at the regional meeting of the University Foundation in Phoenix, last February.

Bye established the scholarship, which is awarded annually to a women's hockey student-athlete, in honor of her mother. Calling her mother a lifelong friend and confidant, Bye also says her mother was one woman who made a huge difference in her life.

"She always nurtured my interest in athletics," said Bye. "This is one way that will continue."

Another factor in Bye's decision to donate to the University was her strong belief that women her age must set an example of philanthropy for others.

The scholarship is given to a women's hockey student-athlete who exemplifies high standards of scholarship and leadership to her team and the Women's Athletics program. The student-athlete must be a sophomore, junior or senior who has displayed high standards of academic achievement, is a team player and is a leader on and off the ice. The 2000 Peggy Mac Innis Bye Scholarship winner was junior Winny Brodt.

Bye's father Billy was a four-time football letterwinner at the U, earning most valuable player honors in 1946. Bye owns an undergraduate degree from Montana and a master's degree from St. Thomas. Though not a Minnesota graduate, she supports the U in many ways, including serving on the Women's Athletics Advisory Council.

*The Peggy Mac Innis Bye Scholarship is the latest in a growing number of endowments for Women's Athletics.*

## Get on the Web and Give!

Make your gifts to Women's Athletics ON-LINE!  
It's easy and secure!

1. Contact: [www.campaign.umn.edu/](http://www.campaign.umn.edu/)
2. Click on the logo "Make A Gift"
3. Follow the instructions on how you would like to make your gift, designating the gift to "Women's Athletics".
4. Your tax-deductable donation helps over 280 women student-athletes achieve their dreams!

# From the Director's Chair — Chris Voelz

I'd like to address two topics in the last column of the 1999-2000 year. The first is a lesson learned, the second is a real happening on the horizon.

Though I will be well on my way to a healthy return to work by the time you receive this, I can't help but bring you greetings from "rehab exile" as I write this edition of my director's column. This total knee replacement has been challenging but I can honestly say that I have been offered many a gift as well. One of the lessons seemed to have particular relevance to what we do in women's athletics through our extended family and community. I had been trying to complete a single leg lift throughout the duration of my knee problems, which had been literally months. And finally, on the 12th day following surgery, the physical therapist said something to me that made a difference. She said, "You must visualize your quadricep successfully recruiting all those other muscles surrounding your knee. It can't do it by itself right now, and neither can you!" Well, the visualization came easily. I only needed to flash back to the year in women's athletics, where so much difference was made by people working together...by sister teams cheering each other on...by a swimming and diving team pulling together for back-to-back Big Ten titles...a hockey team with a team philosophy and commitment to become the BEST team in the nation...a volleyball team's miracle

comeback to advance to the NCAA Sweet 16...by the togetherness felt in the tragedy of the loss of our beloved assistant volleyball coach, Maurice Batie...by the unselfish generosity of a daughter named Deborah (Deborah Olson, that is) who, along with the state of Minnesota made the Elizabeth Lyle Robbie Stadium possible...or another daughter, this time Sage and John Cowles' daughter Jane, whose name will forever be associated with one of the finest new softball stadiums in the nation, made possible by the teamwork of the Cowles family and the state of Minnesota...or the team that answered the six week, \$1.2-million challenge to realize the building of a women's ice hockey arena, a tennis center for women and men and a new women's weight room. Whether it was the Gopher Hockey Task Force, led by Rob Ridder, Jim Erickson and Peggy Lucas, or the men's and women's departments working together toward this common goal, or Gary Wilson's exemplary leadership that garnered the grassroots support throughout the university...or looking back and seeing the Advisory Council led by Linda Mona as they tackled various topics and special events — be it the Texas Tuxedo or Ms. Gopher Golf, among other.

Do I need to tell you what all those reflections and visualizations evoked on that particular morning? Of course, my first single leg lift! Followed by many, many more, all critical

to my healing! My heartfelt thanks for your inspiration, whether you are donors, student-athletes, volunteers, fans, coaches or administrators. I'd take the extended family of women's athletics and match them against any such in the nation. You're the BEST!

And now for the upcoming happening... Maroon, Gold and Silver on October 28! A celebration of University of Minnesota Women's Athletics with special recognition of the past 25 years. The Maroon and Gold represents every woman who participated in athletics or its forerunner at the university, with an opportunity to get that M letter that was simply not available to a woman at the time...a time for recollection and a time to see how deep your roots have grown. The Silver embraces the 25 years since the Women's Athletics Department was officially named and configured. It will be a time for our Hall of Fame festivities and a time to identify and celebrate the outstanding happenings, events, records and people and their contributions over the last 25 years.

The Sports Pavilion will host the multi-day event. Consider this your personal invitation (though you'll be getting another one in the mail) to join us not only for the evening but for the months of nominations and voting — after all, you are our department. See you there, for Maroon, Gold and Silver!

*my best,*

*Chris Voelz*



Bierman Field Athletic Building  
516 15th Ave. S.E.

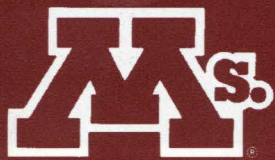
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Women's Athletics  
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

# Winner's Circle

Fall 2000

## Women's Athletics Celebrates 25 Years Celebration set for Homecoming Weekend, October 27-29, 2000

MIW  
9P569W

Women's Athletics turns 25! In conjunction with the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner and Hall of Fame Induction, we will host a number of activities during Homecoming weekend at the University of Minnesota. We are taking October 27 through October 29, 2000 to celebrate those women and men who have made our department successful. Those pioneers who came before the official department declaration and those who have more recently influenced us will all be celebrated!

YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN US FOR THE FOLLOWING 25<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY WEEKEND ACTIVITIES!

### FRIDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2000

#### Women's Athletics Gathering

Happy Hour Social with Friends and Family of Women's Athletics

When: 5:00-7:00 p.m.

Where: Sports Pavilion Clubroom

Cost: Free

### 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration —

#### SATURDAY NIGHT FEVER!

Festivities include the fourth induction into Women's Athletics' Hall of Fame, dinner, audio-visual presentation of our 25 years, silent auction, and groovy live music from the TC Jammers.

When: 6:00-10:00 p.m.

Attire: Semi-Formal, 70's attire requested, anything accepted ... almost (sorry, no streaking allowed)

Where: Sports Pavilion

Cost: \$40 per person

### SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2000

#### Pre-Game Rally in the Tent

Women's Athletics hosts a brunch at the Women's Athletics' tent on the Plaza.

When: 9:00-11:00 a.m., before the football game

Where: The Plaza at the Hubert H.

Humphrey

Metrodome —look for our "Ms." sign

Cost: Free



### SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2000

#### Facilities Tour & Continental Breakfast

Informal breakfast with coaches & student-athletes.

Guided tours of facilities occurring during breakfast.

When: 10:00 a.m. (tours begin at 10:30

a.m.)

Where: Sports Pavilion Clubroom

Cost: Free

### Homecoming Football Game

Lower level concourse tickets to the football game vs. Northwestern are available. Stay for halftime presentation of Hall of Fame inductees.

When: 11:00 a.m.

Where: Hubert H. Humphrey Metrodome

Cost: \$20 per person.

To reserve your spot at individual events or to receive more information about the weekend activities, please call Jonda Hammons at 612-624-4319.

**Mission Statement:** The Department of Women's Athletics is dedicated to exceeding all others in athletic excellence and academic achievement, to offering compelling experiences to the student-athlete and the community, and to providing a diverse environment steeped in integrity, values and vitality.

# All-Sports Schedule Oct. 2000 -Jan. 2001

## October • October • October • October • October

1	Golf	LADY NORTHERN	TBA
1	Soccer	OHIO STATE	1 p.m.
1	Tennis	at UNLV Invitational	
1	Softball	at Augustana	
6	Soccer	at Purdue	3 p.m.
6	Volley	WISCONSIN	7 p.m.
6-8	Tennis	at Tennessee Invitational	
6-8	Tennis	at World Tennis Team National Collegiate Championship (Palo Alto, Calif.)	
7	Volley	NORTHWESTERN	7 p.m.
7	Softball	WISCONSIN-SUPERIOR	2 p.m.
7	CsCty	at Arkansas-Little Rock Shootout	10 a.m.
7	Rowing	HEAD OF THE MISSISSIPPI	all day
8	Soccer	at Indiana	noon
9-10	Golf	at Shootout at the Legends (Franklin, IN)	
11	Volley	IOWA	7 p.m.
13	Volley	OHIO STATE	7 p.m.
13	Soccer	WISCONSIN-MILWAUKEE	7 p.m.
14	CsCty	at Pre-Nationals (Ames, IA)	
14	Softball	Minnesota Invitational	TBA
14	SwDv	INTRASQUAD	1 p.m.
14	Hockey	at St. Cloud State	3:05 p.m.
15	Hockey	ST. CLOUD STATE	3:05 p.m.
15	Rowing	at Lemmonhead Regatta (Elkhart, Ind.)	
15	Soccer	at Michigan State	1 p.m.
20	Soccer	at Wisconsin	7 p.m.
23-24	Golf	at Central District Classic (Parrish, FL)	
20	Volley	at Michigan State	8 p.m.
21	Volley	at Michigan	7 p.m.
21-22	Rowing	at Head of the Charles (Boston, Mass.)	
21	CsCty	MARATHON SPORTS OPEN	10 a.m.
21	SwDv	NORTH DAKOTA	2 p.m.
21	Hockey	OHIO STATE	2:05 p.m.
22	Hockey	OHIO STATE	2:05 p.m.
27	SwDv	ALUMNAE MEET	6 p.m.
27	Hockey	at Minnesota State, Mankato	7:05 p.m.
27	Soccer	vs. Brigham Young at Arizona State	7 p.m.
27	Volley	at Northwestern	7 p.m.
28	Volley	at Wisconsin	7 p.m.
28	Hockey	at Minnesota State, Mankato	2:35 p.m.
29	CsCty	at Big Ten Championships (Madison, WI)	
29	Soccer	at Arizona State	1 p.m.
29	Rowing	at Head of the Iowa	

## November • November • November • November

3-4	Soccer	at Big Ten Tournament (Illinois)	TBA
3	Volley	INDIANA	7 p.m.
4	Volley	PENN STATE	7 p.m.
4	Rowing	at Portland Loop (Portland, OR)	
4	Hockey	at Brown	2 p.m.
4	SwDv	at Florida Atlantic (Boca Raton, FL)	1 p.m.
4-7	Tennis	at ITA Regional Qualifier (Michigan)	
5	Hockey	at Harvard	2 p.m.
5	CsCty	ROCKY'S RUN	10:30 a.m.
8	Basket	CLUB VOLNA (exhibition)	7 p.m.
8	Soccer	at NCAA First Round	TBA
10-12	Soccer	at NCAA Second Round	TBA
10	Hockey	MINNESOTA-DULUTH	7:05 p.m.
10	Volley	at Illinois	7 p.m.
11	Volley	at Purdue	7 p.m.
11	Hockey	MINNESOTA-DULUTH	7:05 p.m.
11	CsCty	at NCAA Midwest Regional (N. Iowa)	TBA
11	SwDv	Iowa State	1 p.m.
12	Basket	CLUB TTT (exhibition)	2 p.m.
17-19	Soccer	at NCAA Third Round	TBA

17-19	SwDv	MINNESOTA INVITATIONAL	11 a.m.
17	Volley	MICHIGAN	7 p.m.
18	Volley	MICHIGAN STATE	7:30 p.m.
18-19	Basket	REGAL CLASSIC	
18		Minnesota vs. Binghamton	noon
		Providence vs. Central Michigan	2 p.m.
19		Consolation/Championship	1/3 p.m.
20	CsCty	at NCAA Championships (Iowa State)	TBA
22	Volley	at Iowa	1 p.m.
25-26		at Torneo Cancun de Basquetball Shootout (Minnesota, Denver, Texas, Louisville)	
25		Minnesota vs. Denver	7:30 p.m.
26		Consolation/Championship	7:30/9:30 p.m.
24-26	Soccer	at NCAA Quarterfinal	TBA
24	Hockey	at Wisconsin	7:05 p.m.
25	Hockey	at Wisconsin	7:05 p.m.
25	Volley	at Ohio State	7 p.m.
30	Volley	at NCAA 1st/2nd Rounds	TBA

## December • December • December • December

1	Hockey	BEMIDJI STATE	7:05 p.m.
1-2	Basket	at Kansas Tournament	
1		Minnesota vs. St. Joseph's	6 p.m.
2		Consolation/Championship	2/4 p.m.
1-3	Soccer	at NCAA Championship (San Jose State)	
1-3	Volley	at NCAA 1st/2nd Rounds	TBA
1-3	SwDv	at Texas Invitational	TBA
2	Hockey	BEMIDJI STATE	7:05 p.m.
4	Basket	VIRGINIA COMMONWEALTH	7 p.m.
7-10	Volley	at NCAA Regionals	TBA
8	Basket	at Ohio University	7 p.m.
9	Hockey	at Dartmouth	1 p.m.
10	Hockey	at Dartmouth	1 p.m.
10	Basket	at St. Louis	2 p.m.
14-16	Volley	at NCAA Final Four (VCU)	TBA
23	Basket	at Marist	2 p.m.
28	Basket	at Penn State	7 p.m.
31	Basket	at IUPUI	2 p.m.

## January • January • January • January • January

2	Gymn	INTRASQUAD	TBA
4	Basket	INDIANA	7 p.m.
6	Gymn	OHIO STATE	7 p.m.
6	Hockey	MERCYHURST	2:05 p.m.
7	Hockey	NIAGARA	1:05 p.m.
7	Basket	MICHIGAN STATE	2 p.m.
11	Basket	at Indiana	7:30 p.m.
13	Gymn	UTAH	7 p.m.
13	TkFd	NORTHWEST OPEN	9 a.m.
13	Hockey	MINN STATE, MANKATO	2:05 p.m.
14	Hockey	MINN STATE, MAKNATO	2:05 p.m.
18	Basket	at Wisconsin	7 p.m.
19	Gymn	vs. Iowa and Michigan at Michigan	TBA
19	Hockey	USA HOCKEY NATL SELECT TEAM	7:05 p.m.
20	SwDv	IOWA	1 p.m.
20	Hockey	USA HOCKEY NATL SELECT TEAM	7:05 p.m.
20	TkFd	HOME QUAD	9 a.m.
21	Basket	NORTHWESTERN	2 p.m.
25	Basket	PURDUE	7 p.m.
26	Hockey	at New Hampshire	7 p.m.
26-27	SwDv	at Quad Duals (Madison, WI)	6 p.m./noon
26-27	Tennis	MINNESOTA COURT CLASSIC	6:30/4:30 p.m.
27	TkFd	MINNESOTA CLASSIC	11 a.m.
27	Hockey	at New Hampshire	3 p.m.
27	Gymn	IOWA	7 p.m.
28	Basket	ILLINOIS	2 p.m.

# Hall of Fame Class of 2000...

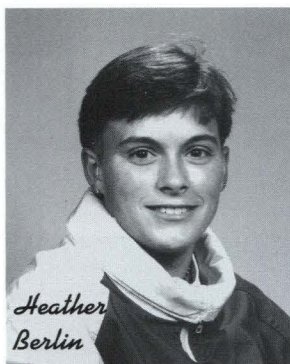
## 2000 Hall of Fame Inductees

### Category I

Significant achievement by a University of Minnesota woman athlete

#### Heather Berlin (Track & Field)

Heather Berlin holds the Big Ten and Minnesota records in the javelin, with a toss of 183 feet, 2 inches. She set that mark at the NCAA Championships her senior season, bettering her previous career best by over three feet to finish second and earn her third career All-America honor. Her first All-America award came in 1992 at the University of Kansas. She followed that with a third-place finish and her second All-America honor in 1993.



Berlin won the javelin at the Big Ten Championships as well as the prestigious Penn Relays in 1995. Berlin won all four javelin competitions during the month of May 1993. Berlin finished second at the 1993 U.S. National Meet and was a two-time national team member at the World University Games. She was a member of Team USA, competing in Britain.

A two-time Academic All-Big Ten selection majoring in kinesiology, Berlin graduated from the University of Minnesota in 1995.

#### Jody Eder (Cross Country/Track & Field)

A four-time track & field All-American and two-time cross country All-American, Jody Eder was the first female student-athlete at the University of Minnesota to qualify for the cross country, indoor and outdoor track and field champion-



ships in the same year. She holds the distinction of being the only runner in Minnesota women's cross country history to earn all-region honors four consecutive years and set a record for NCAA Championship event appearances, with seven.

Eder's cross country time of 16:32.6 at the 1984 regional still stands as the school record for a 5,000-meter course. She has run 14 of the 50 fastest cross country times in school history. When she graduated, Eder also held school records for the indoor 1000, 1500 and mile run as well as the outdoor 1500, 3000 and 4x800 relay. She earned the Big Ten Medal of Honor in 1986. In 1983, Eder led Minnesota to its first trip to the NCAA Cross Country Championships, where she placed 35th and the team placed 10th. Eder competed at the 1984 U.S. Olympic Trials in the 3000 meters.

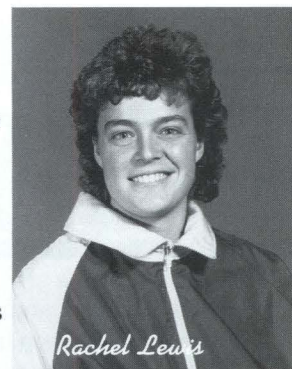
Eder, a physical education major who earned Academic All-Big Ten acclaim, graduated from the University of Minnesota in 1987.

#### Andrea Gonzalez (Volleyball)

Andrea Gonzalez earned first-team All-Big Ten honors all four years of her career and All-Region honors three times. She was Minnesota's first volleyball player in the NCAA era to be named to an All-America team, earning second-team honors in 1988. At the end of her Gopher career, Gonzalez was the Big Ten career leader in kills with 2,140.

She is tied for first in Minnesota history for kills in a

match with 41. During her career, she recorded five matches of at least 30 kills and three matches with both 20 kills and 20 digs. Gonzalez is a member of the Big Ten volleyball all-decade team. She is also a member of Golden Spikers, Minnesota's volleyball hall of fame.



Gonzalez earned Minnesota Senior Athlete of the Year honors in 1989. A physical education major, she graduated from the University of Minnesota in 1990.

#### Rachel Lewis (Track & Field)

Rachel Lewis earned five All-America honors during her Golden Gopher career. Her seven NCAA Championship event appearances tied the school record. Lewis finished as the NCAA's runner-up for the indoor shot put and the discus in 1990. She won both the shot put and discus titles at the 1989 and 1990 Drake Relays.

A six-time Big Ten champion, Lewis became the first Golden Gopher to win multiple Big Ten titles at the same meet when she won both the shot put and the discus at the 1990 championships. She won three straight conference discus titles from 1988-90.

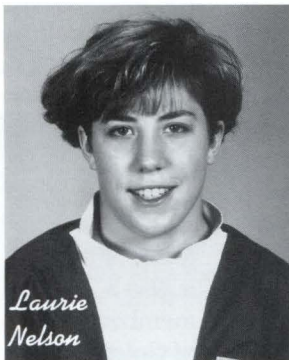
During her career, Lewis set the Minnesota records in both indoor and outdoor shot put. A kinesiology major, Lewis graduated from the University of Minnesota in 1994.



# Hall of Fame Class of 2000...

## Laurie Nelson (Swimming & Diving)

Laurie Nelson is the most decorated female diver in Minnesota history. An eight-time All-American, she earned four consecutive platform diving awards. At her first NCAA



Laurie Nelson

Women's Swimming and Diving Championships, Nelson became the first Golden Gopher to earn All-America honors by placing fifth in platform diving. She earned All-America honors in all three diving events her sophomore year.

Nelson won Big Ten championships for 1-meter, 3-meter and platform diving. During her career, she set school records for each diving event and still ranks among the top five in 3-meter and platform events. She was an NCAA Woman of the Year state winner. A food science major, Nelson graduated from the University of Minnesota in 1995.

## Carol Ann Shudlick (Basketball)

Among the Minnesota basketball greats, Carol Ann Shudlick ranks at the top of the list. The holder of eight Minnesota records, Shudlick's highest honor was earning the Wade Trophy, emblematic of the nation's top senior player, in 1994. Shudlick finished her career with a school-record 2,097 points. She earned first-team All-Big Ten and Kodak All-America honors and was named the Big Ten and SportsChannel-Chicago Player of the Year and *Chicago Tribune* Silver Basketball Award winner during her senior season.

She was a three-time academic All-Big Ten selection and was the



Carol Ann Shudlick

recipient of the Big Ten Medal of Honor in 1994. Following her graduation in 1994 from the University of Minnesota with a degree in journalism, she played professionally in Madrid, Spain, before returning to the United States to join the American Basketball League. With the ABL's Columbus Quest, she helped the team to a 31-9 regular-season record and the ABL's first championship.

## Category II Significant achievement by a University of Minnesota Women's Athletics coach or administrator

### Ellen Mosher Hanson (Basketball coach)

Ellen Mosher Hanson was the longest tenured basketball coach in Golden Gopher history, leading the team to three AIAW Tournament appearances in 10 seasons. She holds the school's coaching record for most career wins after eight seasons with a winning record, including seven seasons with at least 17 wins. Before Mosher

Hanson arrived at Minnesota, the Gophers had never compiled a winning season record, but in her first year as coach, the team was 24-10 and earned a playoff berth. By the 1980-81 season, Mosher Hanson's Gopher team was nationally ranked

and compiled a 28-7 overall mark and a spot in the national championship tournament. She boasts a 172-125 career record and a spot on the coaching squad of the USA All-Star team in 1976.

## Category III

Significant contribution to Women's Athletics at the University of Minnesota by someone other than an athlete, coach or administrator

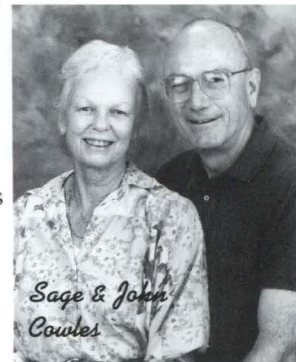
### Sage and John Cowles

The University of Minnesota and the Women's Athletics Department has a new softball stadium, thanks to a generous gift of \$1 million from Sage and John Cowles. The Cowles' donation is the second-largest single gift ever received by

the Women's Athletics Department and matches the \$1 million appropriated by the Minnesota State Legislature for the new softball facility. The new facility was constructed around the previous Bierman field and has both grandstand and

stadium seating for 1,000 spectators. Sage and John Cowles are among the largest backers of the Women's Professional Softball league, a four-team league in its fourth season in the United States. The Cowles are also active in the University of Minnesota community through the Women's Athletics and Dance departments.

Sage and John are each President's Club members of Women's Athletics and are members of the Women's Athletics Advisory Council.



Sage & John Cowles

### Deborah Olson

The University of Minnesota and the Women's Athletics Department



# Hall of Fame Class of 2000...

ment have a special friend in Deborah Olson, who has given over \$1 million to the department and specifically the women's soccer program. After endowing one scholarship in the name of her



mother, the late Elizabeth Lyle Robbie, Olson gave the Women's Athletics Department an additional \$900,000 in

1998 for the building of a new soccer facility and a second endowed scholarship for a University of Minnesota soccer player. Olson is actively involved in University of Minnesota Women's Athletics through her leadership on many special events committees, the Advisory Council and the Ice Hockey Task Force. Due to her experience and expertise, Olson served as a consultant on the soccer stadium project.

## Category IV Significant professional achievement by a former woman athlete at the University of Minnesota

### Jean Freeman (Swimming & Diving Coach)

Jean Freeman has coached the women's swimming and diving team at the University of Minnesota for 27 years. In 1999, she led the team to its first Big Ten Championship, competing in front of its home crowd. The following year, the team repeated as conference champions. Freeman has earned the Big Ten Coach of the Year honors four



Jean Freeman

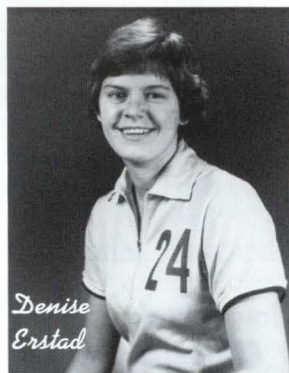
times. Minnesota has placed at the NCAA Championships in each of the last 16 years. Freeman has coached more than 60 swimmers to All-America status and more than 100 to All-Big Ten honors. She was named the recipient of the National Collegiate and Scholastic Swimming Trophy, awarded by the College Swimming Coaches Association of America. Freeman was the first female to win the award in its 41-year history. She is a graduate of the University of Minnesota, competing on the swimming and diving team from 1968-72. She served as assistant coach in 1972-73 before being named head coach in 1973.

## Category V Significant achievement which pioneered women's athletics

### Denise Erstad (Volleyball, Basketball, Softball)

Denise Erstad is the only Golden Gopher student-athlete, male or female, to compete in four separate national championships in three different sports. She competed nationally in volleyball in 1974, softball in 1976 and 1978, and basketball in 1977. She was a member of the third-place softball team in the AIAW College World Series in 1978. She was a member of Minnesota's state AIAW championship volleyball team that was also the runner-up in the AIAW Region VI Tournament.

An eight-time letterwinner, she was a four-time Minnesota state AIAW champion. She is a member of the Golden Spikers Volleyball



Denise Erstad

Hall of Fame and was voted to the University of Minnesota Women's Athletics All-Decade Team for the 1970s. A member of Pi Lambda Theta education honor

society, Erstad graduated from the University of Minnesota's College of Liberal Arts with honors in 1979 and earned a master's degree from Minnesota in 1985. She is a physical education teacher, volleyball coach and track & field coach at Wayzata Central Middle School.



Charlotte Fosburg

### Charlotte Fosburg (1928 Physical Education graduate)

Charlotte Fosburg, a 1928 graduate of the University of Minnesota's College of Physical Education, worked for the Minneapolis Park Board from 1927-72, logging more than 75,000 work hours.

She was in charge of programming of women's sports, including bowling, golf, basketball and volleyball. She joined the Minneapolis Hiking Club in 1929 and immediately became an active member, serving as entertainment chairman in 1930. She became the Executive Director in 1957.

## Special Recognition

### 1975-2000 Advisory Council Chairs:

- Gladys Brooks 1975-81
- Maxine Nathanson 1981-84
- Kathleen Ridder 1984-87
- Mary Stringer 1987-89
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- Sharon Bredeson 1991-93
- Marilyn Tickle Bryant 1993-96
- Peggy Lucas 1996-99
- Linda Mona 1999-current

# Women's Athletics News...

## Brodt Leaving "U" to Join National Program

Minnesota women's hockey coach Laura Halldorson announced that Winny Brodt, the Western Collegiate Hockey Association-Women's League defensive player of the year in 1999-2000, will not return for her senior season and will accept an invitation to train with the U.S. National Program.

"I'm excited for her," Halldorson said. "I'm happy that she's getting this opportunity. It's important for her if she is to play on the national team (in 2001-02). This will give her great experience.

"Obviously we're losing a very talented player. That will have an impact on our team, but this is the best time for it to happen because we have depth on defense and can absorb this loss."



*Gopher Winny Brodt was the WCHA Defensive Player of the Year in the '99-00 season.*

Despite missing 11 games due to a fractured back, Brodt was second nationally on defense with 50 points. She tied for the team lead

with 37 assists and was a first-team All-WCHA selection as well as earning all-tournament honors at the American Women's College Hockey Alliance National Championship.

"This is going to be a good experience for me," Brodt said. "I think it will make me a better player and it's a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity."

Brodt, who played on the U.S. National Team at the 2000 World Championships, will be one of 25 players in the program this year. Most of the U.S. team at the 2002 Winter Olympics will be chosen from this group.

The Gophers, who won the 2000 AWCHA National Championship, get their season underway Oct. 14-15, playing St. Cloud State in a home-and-home series that begins in St. Cloud.

## Muzerall Invited to Canada's National Evaluation Camp

Minnesota senior forward Nadine Muzerall has been invited to attend Canada's National Women's Team Evaluation Camp, Oct. 3-9, in Calgary, Alberta.

The camp roster is made up of 34 of Canada's top players, including 19 of the 21 members of the 2000 World Championship team.

The camp is another step in the seven-month process of evaluating players for the 2001 Women's World Championships, to be held in

Minneapolis in April. Players from the camp will also be chosen to represent Canada at the Four Nations Cup in November, and a January tour.



*Gopher Nadine Muzerall led the nation last year in goals.*

Last season, Muzerall led the Gophers to the American Women's College Hockey Alliance National Championship, leading the nation in goals (49), power-play goals (16) and game-winning goals (9). She was a first-team All-WCHA and AWCHA all-tournament selection.

## A NEW ERA of Women's Rowing begins ...

### October 7

### Head of the Mississippi

See the debut of head coach Wendy Davis and the 2000-01 Golden Gopher rowers.

Regatta begins at 9 a.m., and the Gophers compete at 11 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. Race start is near the Lake Street bridge on the Mississippi River with the finish just beyond the Washington Avenue bridge.

## Gopher Women Record 9 Years with 3.0 GPA

For the 25th consecutive academic term, the University of Minnesota women student-athletes compiled a cumulative grade point average at or above 3.00.

The cumulative GPA for spring 2000 of 3.14 is the highest in school history. The last time the department's GPA was under 3.0 was at the conclusion of fall quarter, 1991. Of the 232 student-athletes in Women's Athletics, 140 (60.3%) recorded a GPA at or above 3.0, with 16 (6.9%) recording perfect 4.0 GPAs.

"It is with incredible pride that we note the 25th consecutive term of a department GPA over 3.0," athletics director Chris Voelz said. "A lot of people are responsible for converting this professed value of education into action and measurable results term after term. Among them are the coaches and the academic counselors, but none more responsible than the student-athletes themselves, who truly embrace their opportunity and responsibilities. This sets us apart, nationwide, and we are truly proud of this distinguishing quality."

Of the department's 11 sports, nine had cumulative GPAs at or above 3.05, with the cross country team posting a department-high 3.42 GPA.

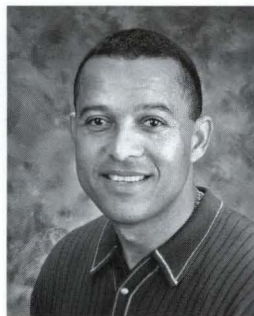
**Mark your calendar!**

**Big Ten Women's  
Golf Championship**

**April 27-29, 2000**

hosted by the University of  
Minnesota Women's Athletics at  
Les Bolstad Golf Course

Fall 2000 — Women's Athletics



*Track & Field assistant coach Sidney Cartwright is a part of the 2000 Olympics.*

## Cartwright at the Olympics

Minnesota assistant track and field coach Sidney Cartwright is serving as the sprints, hurdles and jumps head coach for the Bahamas team at the Summer Olympics in Sydney. He served in the same role at the 1996 Summer Olympics in Atlanta.

Cartwright competed at the 1984 Summer Olympics in Los Angeles as a decathlete for the Bahamas. He has coached Minnesota's Christine Gulbrandsen to three Big Ten championships in the triple jump and Yvette White to the 400-meter hurdles Big Ten title in 1999 in his two years at Minnesota.

## Golden Gophers to Host NCAA Women's Collegiate Ice Hockey Championship

The NCAA Women's Ice Hockey Committee recently selected Mariucci Arena as the site of the first NCAA Women's Collegiate Ice Hockey Championship, to be hosted by the University of Minnesota Women's Athletics Department. The selection was approved by the Women's Ice Hockey Championship/Competition Cabinet.

"The University of Minnesota has demonstrated an extraordinary commitment to women's ice hockey in its short history, and the sport also has tremendous support from the Minneapolis community," said Carolyn Campbell-McGovern, chair of the committee. "The Minnesota Women's Athletics Department staff is very experienced in hosting NCAA championships and the committee is confident that they will put on an outstanding event."

This year's championship, March 23 and 25, will feature four teams. The top-ranked team in the east and the top-ranked team in the west will receive automatic tournament berths. The remaining two teams will be at-large selections.

The Women's Frozen Four will be the sixth NCAA women's championship hosted by the Minnesota Women's Athletics Department in a 13-year span. The 1988 NCAA Volleyball Champion-

ship set a single-match championship attendance record of 9,107 at Williams Arena. The University has also hosted the 1992 NCAA Gymnastics Championships at Williams Arena, the 1995 NCAA Basketball Final Four at the Target Center, and the 1993 and 1998 NCAA Swimming and Diving Championships at the University Aquatic Center.

"We are thrilled to be selected to host the NCAA's first Women's Ice Hockey Championship," Minnesota Women's Athletics Director Chris Voelz said. "Our fabled history of hosting five standard-bearing national championships over the last 12 years has given the NCAA great confidence in our department and community to host this inaugural national championship in the right way."

Mariucci Arena was the site of the 1999 American Women's College Hockey Alliance National Championship. The tournament drew an audience of 4,954, including 2,507 for the championship game. Both figures were the top marks in the AWCHA Championship's three-year history.

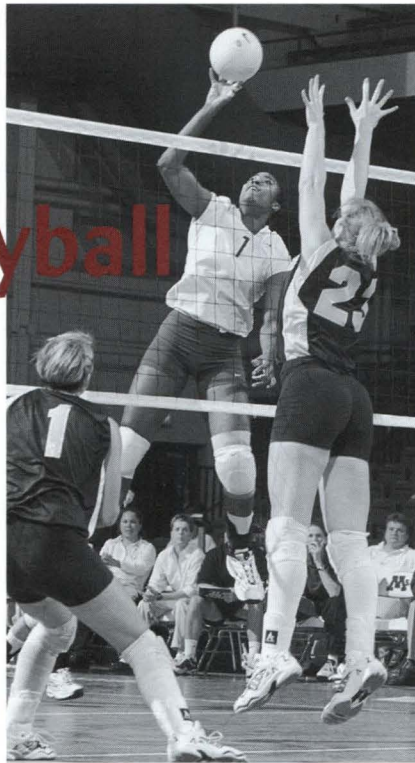
Minnesota also holds the women's college ice hockey record for single-game attendance, with a crowd of 6,854 at its inaugural game, Nov. 2, 1997.

Winner's Circle

# Fall Sports Update

## Volleyball

*Right: Gopher Charnette Fair goes for the kill against Akron at the Diet Coke Classic, September 15-16.*



- This is the first 13-0 start in the program's history.
- 13-match winning streak is longest in 22 years, since the program's record 14-match winning streak in 1978.
- No. 6 national ranking is the highest-ever in school history.
- Nicole Branagh is on pace to become Minnesota's and the Big Ten's all-time leader in kills.

## Cross Country



*Above: Corinne Nimtz finishes strong at the Memorial Oz Run on September 9.*

- Minnesota opened the season with a 16-47 win over Drake at the Memorial "Oz" Run.
- Gophers were ranked 15th in the FinishLynx preseason coaches' poll and moved up to 8th after their superb showing at the Roy Griak Invitational. It is the highest ranking in the program's history.
- Minnesota won the Roy Griak Invitational at Les Bolstad on Sept. 23. Corinne Nimtz earned Minnesota's highest individual finish at eighth place.

## Soccer

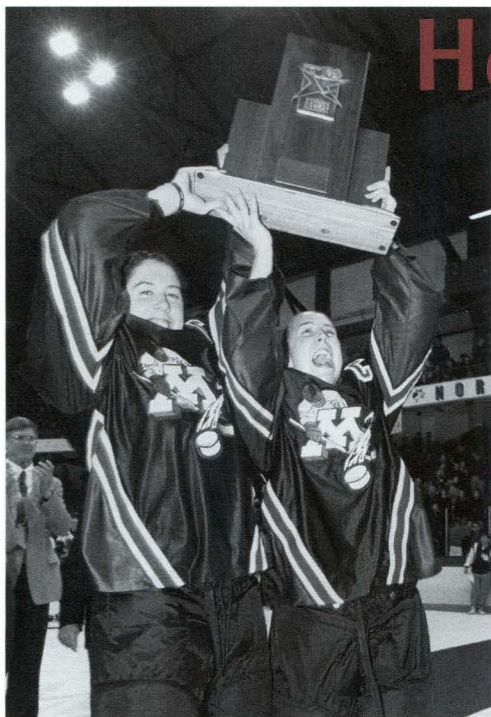


*Above: Soccer defender Allyson Brodie passes the ball during the September 3 match against Iowa State.*

- Gopher goalkeeper Julie Eibensteiner earned Co-Big Ten Conference Player of the Week honors, as well as Soccer America College Team of the Week honors, after leading the Gophers to early-season shutouts of No. 19 Kentucky and Iowa State.
- All-Big Ten defender Juli Montgomery broke her fibula in the Iowa match but hopefully will return later in the season. Montgomery had started every match of her collegiate career (49) before the injury.
- Laura Seidl moved into fourth-place on the Gophers' all-time scoring list. As of Sept. 17, she has scored 89 points on 33 goals and 23 assists.

# Upcoming Sports Preview

## Hockey



- The 2000-2001 team returns 18 letterwinners while adding a group of nine rookies to a squad that posted a 32-6-1 record last season en route to the American Women's College Hockey Alliance National Championship.
- In goaltending, the Gophers boast one of the nation's best in Erica Killewald who has 54 career wins and a 1.78 goals against average.
- On the blueline, the Gophers sport six juniors, including two-time All-American Courtney Kennedy.
- Last year, five Minnesota forwards topped the 20-goal and 50-point marks and all are back.

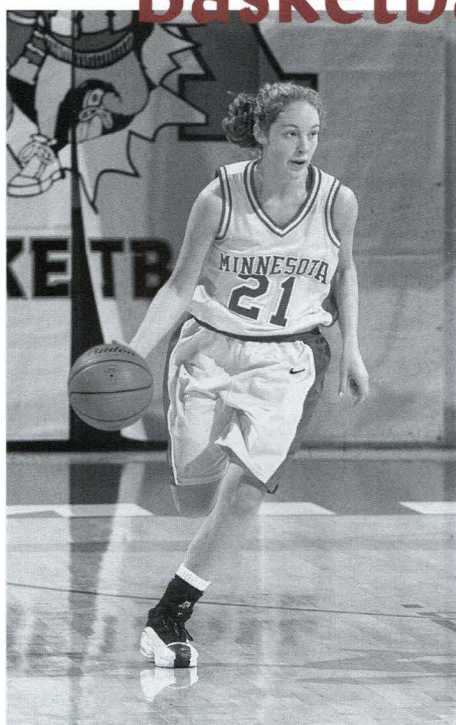
*Left: 1999-2000 Hockey co-captains Shannon Kennedy and Kris Scholz celebrate the department's first national title at the AWCHA Championships.*

## Swimming & Diving



*Above: Katie Christopherson was the 2000 Big Ten champion in the 400 I.M.*

- The Gophers' roster will feature 10 new players when they open their 2000-01 season by hosting the Four Points Sheraton Classic on Nov. 18-19.
- Senior center Brandy Pickens toured Europe with the Big Ten All-Star Team last summer.
- Six letterwinners return for the Gophers this season. The Gophers will be a young team with just one senior and three juniors on the roster.



*Above: Last year, Lindsay Leiser set a team record for season three-point field goals.*

- Head Coach Jean Freeman enters her 28th season as the leader of the Golden Gophers.
- The two-time defending Big Ten champions return their athletes who scored 50% of the team's points at the conference meet.
- Five swimmers return to the squad after participating in this summer's U.S. Olympic Trials.
- The team earned an academic award from the CSCAA (College Swimming Coaches Association of America ) with a 3.13 GPA.

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## WCCO Radio Women's Night Out

Join Kim Jeffries as she hosts Women's Night Out with Women's Athletics! This program is in its third successful year. WCCO listeners will be encouraged to call in for FREE women's athletics tickets courtesy of WCCO Radio. A total of 830 tickets will be given out for soccer, volleyball, basketball, gymnastics, hockey and softball events. Kim Jeffries will make an

appearance at each of the events.

Reliastar will be sponsoring Women's Night Out with WCCO Radio for our fall sports. The following dates have been set:

- Soccer Women's Night Out — Sunday, October 1 at 1 p.m. vs. Ohio State
- Volleyball Women's Night Out — Friday, October 6 at 7 p.m. vs. Wisconsin

Thank you, Reliastar and WCCO Radio!

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WCCO RADIO 8.3.0

# Marketing/Promotions

## State Fair Review — A Great Minnesota Get-Together!

Recently, Women's Athletics enjoyed two fun-filled weeks of agriculture and corn dogs at the Minnesota State Fair. Throughout August 24- September 4th, each of our teams made appearances at the University of Minnesota Crossroads Building.

Each team performed a stage presentation throughout the fair, including a demonstration by our new Rowing team on rowing basics and basketball's "Goldy Says" game of follow the leader.



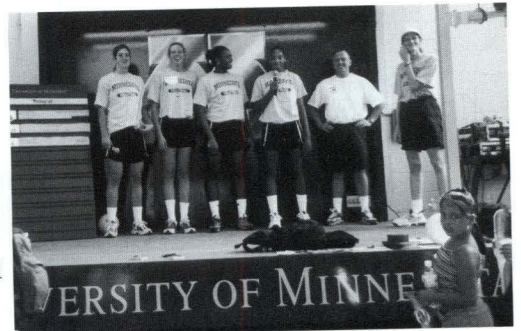
*Above: The Gopher soccer team marches in the University of Minnesota parade at the State Fair.*



*Above: Women's Athletics trainers wow the crowd with their adept skill during their ankle-taping contest.*

One of the highlights took place on August 27, which was designated U of M day at the Fair. The

festivities included a parade with all U of M academic units, professional schools, the band and athletics! The day rounded out with a Pep Rally for fairgoers in Carousel Park, featuring interviews with head coach Mike Hebert and captain



*Above: Gopher volleyball members rally on-lookers during their afternoon presentation.*

Lindsey Berg of Minnesota's ninth ranked volleyball team.

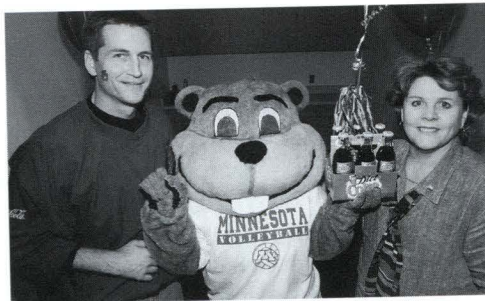
Hebert also competed as a celebrity chef at the Tejas Booth. He was joined by Jean Freeman, the coach of our back-to-back Big Ten champion swimming and diving team, and student-athletes from each team. Each of the teams concocted a guacamole recipe, which was then consumed by delighted fairgoers with the proceeds going to the coaches' favorite charities.

## DIET COKE CLASSIC VOLLEYBALL

The 2000 Diet Coke Classic volleyball tournament on Sept. 15-16 featured exciting action and many records! The ninth ranked Gopher volleyball team extended their preseason record to 11-0 with victories over Tennessee, Seton Hall and Akron. This marks the longest winning streak in 22 years. Captain Lindsey Berg was named the Most Valuable Player of the tournament and accepted the championship trophy on behalf of the Gophers! The volleyball team broke a preseason attendance record with an announced attendance of 2,789 at Friday night's session.



Stay tuned for more great performances by the volleyball team as we enter Big Ten Conference play in late September!



*Above: Coca-Cola Representative Dave Yantes poses with Goldy and Athletics Director Chris Voelz.*



**Four Points®**

Sheraton

## Basketball Classic Renamed

The Four Points Hotel Minneapolis is the title sponsor of this year's annual basketball tournament to be known as the Four Points Sheraton Classic.

The tournament will be held November 18-19 at the Sports Pavilion. Minnesota will host Binghamton, Central Michigan and Providence. Included in this title sponsorship is advertising, in-game promotions, tickets to and hospitality for the tournament.

Thanks to the Four Points Hotel Minneapolis!

## Robert Blair Ridder (1919-2000)

Robert Blair Ridder, co-chair of the Women's Athletics Ice Hockey Task Force and a hockey hall of famer, passed away June 24, 2000 at his Mendota Heights home. He was 80.

Rob and his wife, Kathleen, donated a lead gift of over half a million dollars for the University of Minnesota's new women's hockey program and Ice Hockey/Tennis Facility. The Ridders made this donation because of Rob's lifelong involvement in ice hockey and Kathleen's abiding interest and support of girls and women in sport. "We contributed to the new women's ice hockey facility and program to join our two interests, providing us with the opportunity

to make a significant contribution to both ice hockey and women's athletics."

When the university announced the addition of Gopher women's hockey, the Ridders funded the first endowed scholarship for women's hockey at the University of Minnesota, the Robert and Kathleen C. Ridder Gopher Women's Hockey Scholarship.

Rob Ridder loved sports, especially hockey and tennis, and volunteered in many community organizations. He was former president of WCCO Radio and Television in Minneapolis and former manager of the U.S. Olympic Ice Hockey Team in 1952 and 1956. He was one of the founders and the first president of the Minnesota Amateur Hockey Association. He was elected to the

U.S. Hockey Hall of Fame in 1976.

Through his endearing leadership as the Co-chair of the Women's Athletics Ice Hockey Task Force, he touched everyone he met. He made them feel like family — as a family member of the Women's Athletics Department, he will be dearly missed.

*(Excerpts taken from the Pioneer Press)*

## Mary Lange (1937-2000)

Mary L. Lange was the Women's Athletics Advisory Council Chair from 1987-1989. She passed away in July and will be greatly missed as a former leader of Women's Athletics. Mary was a student of life and love — thank you, Mary, for your service and forethought.

## Please Join Us for our 12th Season of Inner Circle

Tuesday, September 12 marked the beginning of our 12th year of Inner Circle, an informal gathering of coaches, athletes, staff, fans and friends to hear about the current developments in Women's



*Above: Inner Circle celebrity emcee Rondah Kinchlow of KARE 11 interviews team council tri-chair and soccer co-captain Erin Holland.*

Athletics. Our celebrity emcee was Rondah Kinchlow of KARE 11, who interviewed the head coaches and a student-athlete from each of the volleyball, soccer and cross country teams. The featured alum was Sarah Pearman (class of '98) who delighted the crowd with tales of her experience as a

volleyball player at the U.

Please mark your calendars for these upcoming dates and join us!

- Tuesday, November 14 at 7:30 a.m. featuring Basketball, Hockey and Swimming & Diving
- Tuesday, February 13 at 6:30 p.m. featuring Gymnastics, Rowing and Track & Field
- Tuesday, April 10 at 7:30 a.m. featuring Softball, Tennis and Golf

## November Phone-A-Thon

Is your phone ringing during dinner? Well it's for a good reason.

Student-athletes from all 12 sports will be calling you for the 14th annual U of M Women's Athletics Department volunteer phone-a-thon.

The U of M is one of only six Division I athletic programs in the United States with separate departments for men and women athletes. Your support is appreciated and helps women's athletic scholarships. Listen for our call!

## Get on the Web and Give! > < > <

Make your gifts to Women's Athletics ON-LINE! It's easy and secure!

1. Contact: [www.campaign.umn.edu/](http://www.campaign.umn.edu/)
2. Click on the logo "Make A Gift"
3. Follow the instructions on how you would like to make your gift, designating the gift to "Women's Athletics"
4. Your tax-deductible donation helps over 280 women student-athletes achieve their dreams!

# From the Director's Chair — Chris Voelz

*Come one. Come all. See! Believe! Achieve!* That's what research tells us about reaching goals. The goals that are most successfully accomplished are those in which all people who may affect the goals in a positive way are invited to join in its pursuit and where the goals are displayed in writing. As the athletics director, I apply this research. Term by term, I share goals, in writing, with the department and invite them to join in the process and product of accomplishing those goals. After having done this more than 35 times over the past 13 years, we can certainly attest to the validity of this research as we declare more goals achieved than not! In order for us to continue to improve, embracing higher and higher goals, let me invite YOU, our extended family, to share in our goals, their pursuit and their achievement in likewise fashion. Here goes:

**Overarching Objective:** To improve athletic achievement while maintaining academics and integrity.

- Maintain and enhance a culture where the members of the department align their activities with the values of the department and the University.
- To successfully launch our 12<sup>th</sup> intercollegiate sport, rowing

- To work progressively on the completion of the hockey/tennis and weight room facilities, Bierman remodeling and the boathouse facilities.
- Develop and implement strategies to further actualize the potential of new revenue through fundraising, gate receipts and corporate partnerships.
- To successfully host a 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary whereby we honor the 2000 Hall of Fame class; raise public awareness of Women's Athletics throughout the year through a variety of media-driven vehicles and provide an event the alums, donors and community can rally around.
- To successfully host the NCAA Women's Hockey Championship and the Big Ten Women's Golf Championship.
- To provide the local community, the state of Minnesota and the nation with timely and interesting information in promotion of our student-athletes and our department through enhanced interaction with the media.
- To provide an environment of open-mindedness and vitality in cooperation and response to the external review.
- Launch new departmental "Five-Year Diversity Plan," and con-

tinue efforts to increase diverse representation on teams and among staff.

- To work cooperatively and positively with the new men's athletics director towards maximizing energy, attitude and resources while maintaining the positive, unique culture of women's athletics.
- To continue building upon and surpassing the goals of the past two sets of five-year goals as well as the projected goals for 2000-2005.

In closing, let me share with you one of our department's values, that I think can only enhance this invitation to you in assisting us to reach our goals. It goes like this: *We value teamwork, acknowledging that it matters not who gets the credit, but rather valuing the importance of everyone's work towards a common goal.*

If there's something there for you, join in. If we don't reflect your values call or email and tell me what's missing (phone 612-624-4044 and voelz001@tc.umn.edu). Otherwise I will look forward to congratulating you and all the members of our department as we look back upon 2000-01 with much pride and accomplishment. Go Gophers!

*my best,*

*Chris Voelz*



Bierman Field Athletic Building  
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UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

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Women's Athletics  
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

# Winner's Circle

Fall 2001

## Kerry O'Keefe Remembered

### Assistant Rowing Coach's Life Makes an Impression on Women's Athletics

University of Minnesota novice rowing coach Kerry O'Keefe died on Sunday, September 23, in Minneapolis after a long bout with cervical cancer. She was 33.

"One cannot quite fathom how such a young, vibrant professional and popular person can be taken so soon," said Minnesota women's athletics director Chris Voelz. "This is a loss for our whole program and in particular the student-athletes whom she coached. We will sustain ourselves with the privilege of having known Kerry and the inspiration we received from watching her courage and optimism throughout this long battle. She has had a lasting impact upon this new rowing program and her memory will always be with us."

O'Keefe coached at Minnesota during the 2000-01 season, Minnesota's first as a varsity program. The novice boat was Minnesota's most successful during the inaugural year, finishing second in the grand final at the 2001 Lexus South/Central Sprints in Oak Ridge, Tenn. Prior to her tenure at Minnesota, O'Keefe was the head coach at Southern Methodist University in 1999-2000, where she

started the Mustang program. She was the assistant coach at Yale in 1996-97, under current Minnesota head coach Wendy Davis, an assistant coach at Ohio State in 1997-98 and the novice coach at Notre Dame in 1998-99.

"Kerry and I were very excited about building this rowing program together," said Davis. "I have lost a real companion, and the rowing world has lost a great coach. Although she was only with us for a year, her stamp of excellence and her joie du vie, will continue to shape this program in the years to come."

O'Keefe is survived by her mother Ann, her brother Roy, her sister Kim, and her twin sister Karen. A funeral service was held Wednesday, Sept. 2, at 4 p.m. at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Minneapolis. The Kerry O'Keefe Equipment Fund for Women's Rowing at the University of Minnesota has been set up by the family.

The following poem was written by Gopher rowers Lauren Frana and Shelley Miller as a tribute to their coach:

*Most people live their lives as puddles.*



MIW  
P569w

*Some might make it as lakes.  
Kerry, you live your life like a river.  
A river is the beginning of something  
much larger.  
Like the steady currents of a river, you  
are courageous and strong.  
Always flowing towards your goals,  
you lead us.  
On your journey, you don't travel  
alone.  
With your compassion, you pull us  
along, and together we are greater.  
Just as your course alters the land, you  
influence us all.  
Sometimes you ease our journey, and at  
other times you push us past our limits.  
Like a river widened by the rains, you  
live life to the fullest.  
Ever since the first practice, we have  
rowed on your waters.  
Through your spirit and love, you will  
always carry us.*

*Mission Statement: The Department of Women's Athletics is dedicated to exceeding all others in athletic excellence and academic achievement, to offering compelling experiences to the student-athlete and community, and to providing a diverse environment steeped in integrity, values and vitality.*

# Women's Athletics News...

## Tyler Thomson Hired as University of Minnesota Women's Tennis Coach

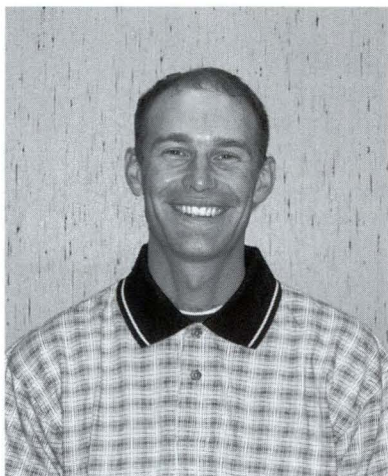
Tyler Thomson was named as the fifth head coach in the history of University of Minnesota women's tennis, women's athletic director Chris Voelz announced on October 11, 2001. Thomson was an assistant coach at the College of William and Mary prior to his arrival at Minnesota.

"We believe that hiring Tyler Thomson does far more than fill an open position, it most importantly shapes the future of Gopher women's tennis," Voelz said. "We are thrilled to have his experience, expertise, and energy to lead us to a new era of achievements."

As an assistant coach at William and Mary since 1997, Thomson has assisted in three NCAA team tournament berths in 1998, 1999 and 2000, including a quarterfinal finish in 1998. Thomson assisted three All-Americans, six ITA Scholar-Athlete All-Americans and 10 ITA nationally ranked players. Among individual honors, Thomson received the ITA East Region's assistant coach of the year in 1999.

Thomson, a Bismarck, N.D.

native, earned high school All-America honors in 1989 as a senior at Bismarck High School, where he played No. 1 singles and doubles. Thomson went on to play at the University of Montana, where he was a four-year starter in doubles, an eventual singles starter and team captain for the Grizzlies. A '93 graduate of Montana, Thomson earned a bachelor of arts degree in English literature. In 1996, Thomson was named the assistant men's and women's tennis coach at Allegheny College in Meadville, Pa., while also teaching two physical education courses at the school.



*Above: New women's tennis coach Tyler Thomson began his duties at Minnesota on Monday, October 22, 2001.*

"I am extremely excited about the opportunity to work for the University of Minnesota and I can't wait to get started," Thomson said. "As the interview process progressed, it became clear to me that the ideals and philosophies of the administration mirrored those that I deem important. Furthermore, the support of the Women's Athletic Department as a whole is incredibly impressive. I firmly believe that the ingredients for success are all in place."

## Golden Gopher Women's Athletics Hits 10 Years with 3.0 Cumulative GPA

The University of Minnesota Women's Athletics Department posted a 3.14 cumulative departmental grade point average in the 2001 spring semester, completing the 10th year, or 27 consecutive academic terms, with a 3.0 GPA or higher.

"Once again I am not surprised, but incredibly pleased, to learn that the string of victories in academics continues for the Gopher Women!" said women's athletics director Chris Voelz, who is in her 13th year at Minnesota. "Their 27th consecutive term of earning a GPA over 3.0 reflects the student-athletes' commitment to academics, the coaches' guidance in priorities and the department's support of the mission of the university."

Sixty-two percent of the 298 Golden Gopher women student-athletes recorded a 3.0 or better GPA in the last semester. Sixteen student-athletes posted a perfect 4.0 GPA.

Of the department's 12 sports, 10 had cumulative GPAs at or above 3.0, with the cross country team posting a department-high 3.50 GPA.

Golden Gophers with 4.0 cumulative grade point averages were Michaela Havelkova (tennis), Andrea Gaetz (track & field/cross country), Mary Skokut (gymnastics), Sarah Statz (tennis) and Jenna Stocker (swimming & diving).

## The Mike Hebert Show Airs Wednesdays on WMIN

The Mike Hebert Show, a 30-minute radio program featuring Minnesota head coach Mike Hebert, airs on WMIN Radio 640 AM, every Wednesday at 4:03 p.m. during the 2001 Minnesota volleyball season. Join host Tom Witschen, Hebert, and Minnesota's student-athletes throughout the year as they talk about the latest happenings in the Minnesota volleyball program. The show also airs simultaneously over the Internet on [www.gophersports.com](http://www.gophersports.com).

Look for the Brenda Oldfield and Laura Halldorson shows coming in January!

## Former Gopher Courtney Kennedy Named to the USA Hockey National Team

Former University of Minnesota women's hockey player Courtney Kennedy has been selected to the 2001-02 USA Hockey Women's National Team, announced August 23, 2001.

The team will participate in the 2001-02 VISA Skate To Salt Lake City Tour in preparation for the XIX Olympic Winter Games to be held Feb. 9-24, 2002, in Salt Lake City. Prior to the Olympic Winter Games, the current 25-player roster will be trimmed to 20 players who will comprise the 2002 U.S. Olympic Women's Ice Hockey Team.

Kennedy, a native of Woburn, Mass., played three seasons with the Golden Gophers. She completed her career in 2001 as one of three finalists for the prestigious Patty Kazmaier Award, earning first-team All-America honors on defense and by being tabbed the WCHA-Women's League Player of the Year. She led the Gophers to the AWCHA national title in 2000 and the WCHA-Women's League title last season.

The 2001-02 USA Hockey



*Above: Courtney Kennedy is the most decorated player to date in Minnesota Women's Hockey history.*

Women's National Team was selected following the 2001 USA Hockey Women's National Team Festival, held Aug. 13-22 in Lake Placid. The Festival featured 45 of the top women's players in the

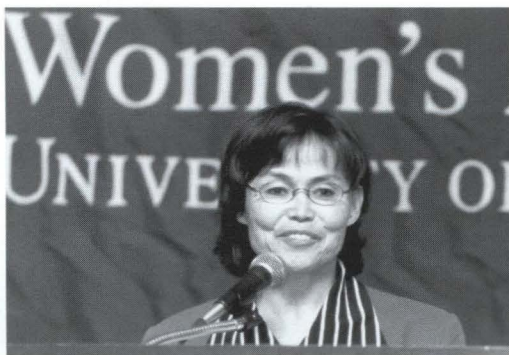
nation.

"We are excited about the talented roster we have assembled for the 2001-02 USA Hockey Women's National Team," said U.S. Women's National and Olympic Team head coach Ben Smith. "The competition was excellent at the Festival, and all the players exhibited an unprecedented high level of hard work, skill and commitment. We now look forward to beginning the pre-Olympic tour in anticipation of Salt Lake City."

The VISA Skate To Salt Lake City Tour features a 39-game schedule against national and international competition. The tour began on Sept. 2-7 with a trip to Beijing, China. On Oct. 6, the team played in St. Paul, Minn., at the Xcel Energy Center against an all-star team from the WCHA-Women's League. Kennedy played against four of her former teammates in the WCHA All-Star game: Seniors Tracy Engstrom and Laura Slominski, junior Ronda Curtin and sophomore La Toya Clarke.

## Former Advisory Council Chair Peggy Lucas Honored by the University

On October 19, 2001, Regent Maureen Reed and athletics director Chris Voelz presented the University of Minnesota Outstanding Achievement Award to Peggy Lucas on behalf of the University. The University of Minnesota Outstanding Achievement Award is the highest award the University presents to its alumni. Its recipients are often figures of great stature in their communities. The award was presented to Peggy during halftime of the nationally televised Gopher volleyball match versus



*Above: Peggy Lucas addresses the 1998 Berg Banquet during her tenure as Advisory Council Chair.*

Wisconsin.

At the University, Lucas earned

1963 Bachelor of Arts and 1978 Master's in Social Work degrees. Lucas was named Women's Athletics Advisory Council Chair in 1996. In her tenure as chair, swimmer Gretchen Hegener won the NCAA championship in the 100 breaststroke (1997) and Minnesota hosted the 1998 NCAA Women's Swimming & Diving Championships. Also under her leadership, the department broke ground on both the soccer and softball stadiums and held its inaugural women's hockey game, which drew a record 6,854 fans.

# Women's Athletics News...

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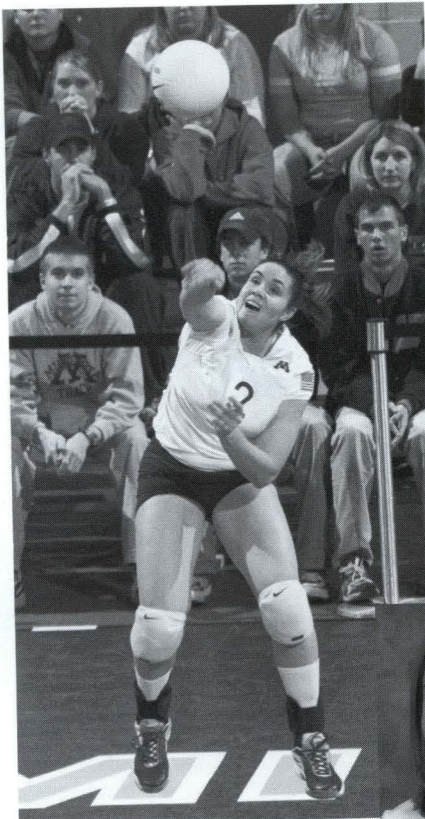
Fans of Golden Gopher athletics already know that gophersports.com is the best source of the most up-to-date information. But now, check out some new features to our athletics website...

## Ask the AD

Have you ever wanted to ask University of Minnesota Women's Athletics Director Chris Voelz or Men's Athletics Director Tom Moe a question? Here is your chance. On a bi-weekly basis, each of the athletic directors will answer selected questions with the answers being posted on the website.

## Gopher Gameday

This new and exciting feature of gophersports.com gives fans complete coverage of a specific athletic contest or event. Included on Gopher Gameday are notes for each team, Big Ten Conference weekly notes and links for both live stats and audio when available. Also look for upcoming game promotions and other Golden Gopher athletic events! Gopher Gameday was successfully kicked off during the volleyball season. Watch for Gopher Gameday coverage in women's basketball and women's hockey as well.



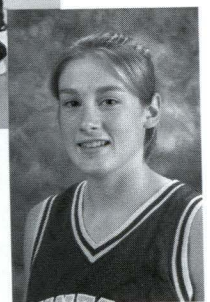
*Above: Senior setter Lindsey Berg, honored for her 5,000th career assist at the match versus Illinois on October 6, was featured by ESPN during the halftime of a Big Ten football game this fall.*



*Above: Minnesota head coach Mike Hebert won his 700th volleyball match as a collegiate head coach Sept. 19 at Iowa, making him the sixth active coach in NCAA Division I with 700 career wins.*



*Above: Sophomore guard Lindsay Whalen (first row, kneeling at left) represented Minnesota on the Big Ten All-Star Team that toured Europe last summer. Whalen tied for team honors in scoring averaging 13.2 points per game and helped the squad to a perfect 5-0 record.*

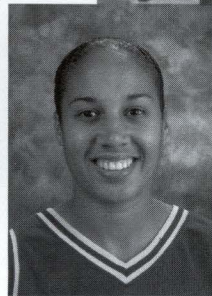
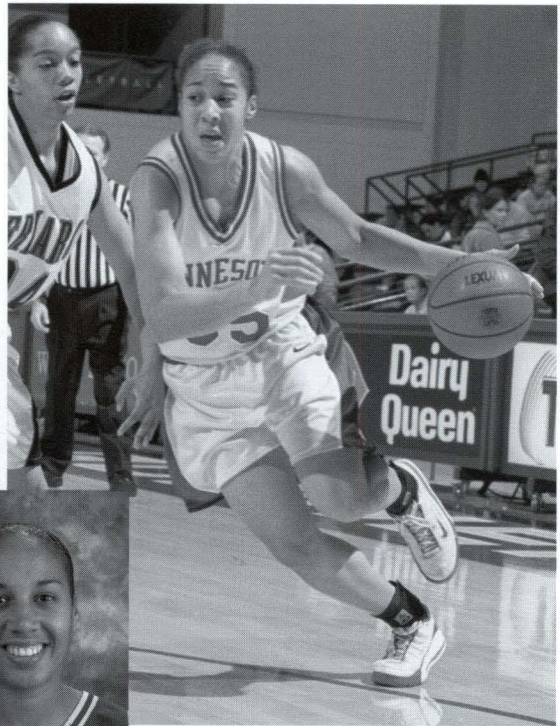




# Women's Athletics News...



*Above: Junior golfer Karyn Stordahl captured medalist honors and led the Gophers to the team title at the Lady Razorback Invitational in early October.*



*Above: Sophomore forward Kadidja Andersson competed for her native Sweden at the World University Games at Beijing, China in August. Sweden posted a 5-2 record but did not qualify for the medal rounds.*



*Above: Aubrey Schmitt took sixth in the discus, throwing 178- feet, 1-inch, at the 2001 USA Outdoor Track and Field Championships in Eugene, Oregon, in late June. Her performance earned her a place on the 2001 World University Team which competed in Beijing, China in August.*

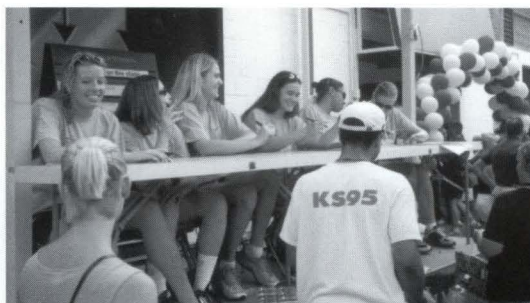
# Women's Athletics News...

## Women's Athletics a Daily Presence at the Minnesota State Fair

Student-athletes, coaches and staff from the University of Minnesota Women's Athletics Department were featured daily at the 2001 Minnesota State Fair. The Women's Athletics booth was located in the north auditorium of the Crossroads Building (corner of Dan Patch and Cooper streets).

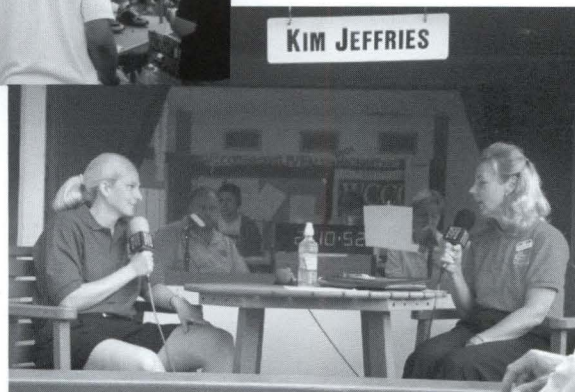
Golden Gopher student-athletes and coaches hosted the booth and gave interviews, greeted fairgoers and signed autographs.

Other features of the booth were an interactive display, a photo collection and season ticket sales. A pictorial display showcased past and present teams and coaches. Season tickets to every sport were available for purchase on site, as well as athletic apparel of Golden Gopher teams.



*Left: 2001 Gopher Volleyball players sign autographs outside the Crossroads Building at the Minnesota State Fair.*

*Right: WCCO's Kim Jeffries interviews new basketball head coach Brenda Oldfield at the Minnesota State Fair.*



Mike Hebert, head volleyball coach, and Brenda Oldfield, head women's basketball coach, com-

peted in the annual Tejas guacamole smashing contest on Sunday, Aug. 26. Golden Gopher student-athletes also participated in Sunday's parade as part of the U of M Day at the Minnesota State Fair.

## Dishing Dirt: The Ridder Arena and Tennis Facility Construction Rolls Along



*Left: The Ridder Arena and Tennis Facility construction site on July 19, 2001.*

*Right: The Ridder Arena and Tennis Facility construction site on September 18, 2001.*



### Notes:

- The total cost of the facility is \$13.9 million
- The completion date is set for the winter of 2002
- The hockey arena will be named The Ridder Arena, honoring Kathleen and the late Robert Ridder
- The new arena will have a seating capacity of 3,400, including a club room with 210 seats and four suites with 20 seats each
- The complex will also include the tennis (10 indoor and 12 outdoor courts) and women's weight room facilities
- The ice sheet in the new arena will measure 200 x 85 feet, compared to Mariucci's Olympic-sized 200 x 100 feet

# Women's Athletics Upcoming Events...

## Ms. Gopher Fall Auction

November 24, 2001

3:30-5:30 p.m.

Sports Pavilion

The 2001 Ms. Gopher Fall Auction will take place on Saturday November 24 from 3:30 - 5:30 p.m. in the Sports Pavilion. This silent auction benefits the Berg Fund which provides scholarships to female student-athletes. The auction will be held before the Gopher volleyball match versus Penn State at 7 p.m.

Items available for bidding include a Daunte Culpepper autographed jersey, great getaway vacations, tickets to theater and professional sporting events, hotel stays and much, much more!

Tickets prices are \$20 for adults, \$15 for season ticket holders and \$10 for children/youth (6-18), with no charge for children under 6 years old. Tickets to the event

include both admission to the auction and the Minnesota/Penn State volleyball match. On-site activities will be available for children including face painting and magic shows.

Get out of the house this Thanksgiving while supporting Women's Athletics and getting great value for your entertainment dollar!

To reserve your space, call the Gopher Ticket Office at 612-624-8080 or 1-800-UGOPHER.

## Rocky's Run — Cross Country 5K and 8K

The University of Minnesota invites the community to participate in Rocky's Run, a 5K and 8K cross country run. The race will be held on Sunday, November 4, from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. at the University of Minnesota Les Bolstad Golf Course (Larpenteur West of Cleveland).

Rocky's Run is a cross country race honoring University of Minnesota All-American track and cross country runner



Rocky Racette

Rocky Racette, a Big Ten and Drake Relays 5000 meter champion. On October 17, 1981, she died in an

auto accident. The race is staged by the many members of the running community who knew and loved her.

To participate in the event, you may register online at [www.tslevents.com](http://www.tslevents.com) or register in person at the Runners Edge located at 792 Grand Avenue in St. Paul (phone: 651-224-1971). Race-day

registration is also available before the event at 9:00 a.m. at the U of M Golf Course.

One can choose from different entry fee packages, which include: Economy Entry fee (no apparel): \$10.00 Long Sleeve T plus entry fee: \$20.00 Sweatshirt plus entry fee: \$28.00 Sweatshirt, Long Sleeve T plus entry fee: \$36.00 Ages 19 and under receive a \$5.00 discount

Awards will be given for the top two male and female finishers in multiple age categories. All proceeds from the run will fund the Rocky Racette Track and Cross Country Scholarship that is awarded by the Women's Athletics Department.

# Winter Sports Preview

*Below: Junior Dana Baum is the team's sole returning competitor from last year's NCAA Championships.*



## Swimming & Diving

- « The Golden Gophers boast 26 returning letterwinners (8 of whom captured points at the 2001 Big Ten Championships) and 19 newcomers on the 2001-02 team.
- « Junior Dana Baum is a top returner for the Gophers after she competed in the 200, 500 and 1650 freestyle at the NCAA championships last season.
- « Head coach Jean Freeman returns for her 29th season at the helm of the Minnesota program. Freeman, who was inducted into the Women's Athletics Hall of Fame last fall, has a career dual meet record of 200-53-4.

## Basketball



*Right: Lindsay Whalen was Honorable Mention All-Big Ten.*

- The Gophers opened a new era on Oct. 13 with head coach Brenda Oldfield directing the first official practice at Madness at the Mall.
- Minnesota returns 10 letterwinners, nine of whom have starting experience.
- Sophomore Lindsay Whalen is the Gophers' top returning player. Whalen earned honorable mention All-Big Ten honors as a rookie and finished second in the Big Ten in scoring, averaging 17.0 points per game.



## Hockey

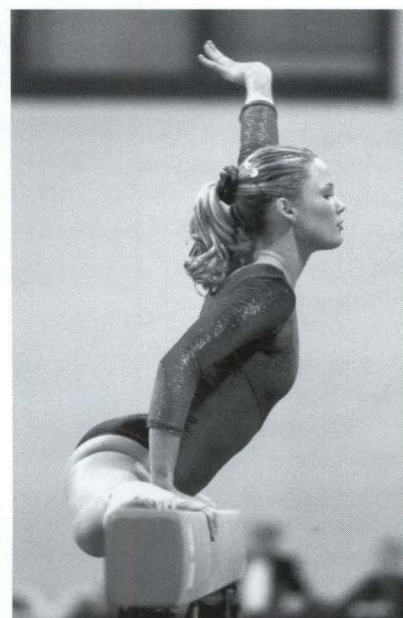
*Left: Laura Slominski is one of the 2001-02 co-captains.*

- » The 2001-02 Gophers have a young team with 15 of 20 members being first- or second-year players.
- » The team returns five of the eight top scorers from last year's squad, including team-leader, sophomore La Toya Clarke.
- » The Gophers opened their season with a sweep over Minnesota State, Mankato on Oct. 12-13 and newcomer Kelly Stephens was named WCHA Rookie of the Week.

## Gymnastics

- » Minnesota finished the 2001 season ranked 15th overall, missing a team bid to the NCAA Championships by .15 of a point. MaryAnne Kelley competed as an individual in the all-around and earned second-team All-America honors on the vault.
- » Minnesota has 10 letterwinners returning for 2002, losing only two.
- » This season will mark 20 years of coaching partnership for Jim and Meg Stephenson.

*Right: MaryAnne Kelley competed in the all-around at the 2001 NCAA Championships.*



## Cross Country

- « The Gophers recently finished 14th with 425 points in the 6K silver race in the Pre-NCAA meet. Led by sophomore Darja Vasiljeva. Minnesota finished 5th with 140 points in the 6K invitational race.
- « Gophers finished 12th at the Roy Griak Invitational led by Darja Vasiljeva.
- « On Oct. 28, the Gopher runners finished 4th in the Big Ten Conference Championship. First-year runner Lisa Dyer was the top Gopher finisher and earned second team all-conference honors.

*Right: Runner Darja Vasiljeva won the Big Ten Freshman of the Year award last fall.*



## Soccer

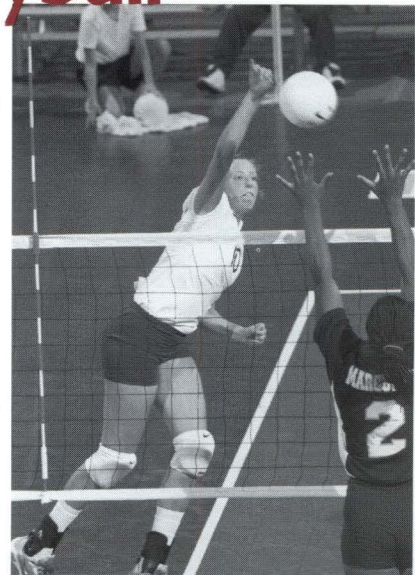


*Above: Goalie Julie Eibensteiner makes another save at the match versus Iowa on Sept. 30.*

- » Minnesota holds the highest home attendance record in the Big Ten with an average of 681 fans per game.
- » Sophomore forward Rachael Roth leads Minnesota in goals with six. So far this season she has been credited with two game winners.
- » Senior goalkeeper Julie Eibensteiner has captured 61 saves this season, which ranks fourth in the Big Ten.

## Volleyball

- « The Golden Gophers have been ranked every week of the season and completed the first half of the Big Ten Conference schedule with an 11-7 overall record, 5-5 in conference play.
- « The Gophers, led by seniors Lindsey Berg and Stephanie Hagen, will play eight of their last 12 matches at home in the Sports Pavilion.
- « Minnesota is once again among the nation's leaders in attendance, climbing to No. 8 the week of Oct. 22.
- « Lindsey Berg became the fourth Gopher and 12th player in Big Ten history to surpass 5,000 career assists.
- « 2000 second-team All-American Stephanie Hagen is the team leader in kills in 2001 and has climbed to No. 9 on the Gophers' all-time career kills list with 1,211 (as of 10/22).



*Above: Senior Stephanie Hagen was a second-team All-American last year.*

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\*Our sincere appreciation to all of our donors and corporate partners. This list includes gifts made from July 1, 2000 to June 30, 2001. If you are not included on the list, it was done so inadvertently, and we'd like to hear from you so that we may recognize you in the next Winner's Circle.

# Marketing & Promotions

## Women's Athletics Launches New Advertising Campaign

As a result of a unique partnership between University of Minnesota students, student-athletes, and a private production company, the University of Minnesota Women's Athletics launched a new advertising campaign in August.

The series of three commercials, produced by North Woods Advertising, in conjunction with the Minnesota Broadcasters Association and the Minnesota State Lottery, highlighted the tremendous growth in women's athletics that has

occurred over the past 25 years, as well as the many accomplishments of the Gopher women's teams. The U hopes that the message of an already dynamic but still growing women's athletics program will increase their ticket sales.

The ads were shot at the University of Minnesota studio space in the Rarig Center using several of the U's film students. They performed many of the technical duties on the shoot and Gopher woman athletes were featured in the ad.

"It was a great learning experi-

ence for the students," said Gary Ludwitzke Production Instructor/Trainer at the U of M. "The students got to partake in a real TV commercial shoot and learn how the whole process works."

"By using student-athletes in the commercials, we were able to personalize sports at the U. We were also able to show that these young women are talented both on and off the court," said Natasha Freimark, Director of Marketing for Women's Athletics.

## Madness at the Mall! Madness at the Mall!

The Gopher Women's Basketball team and coaching staff took part in Madness at the Mall on October 13, the first official day of practice for the 2001-2002 season.

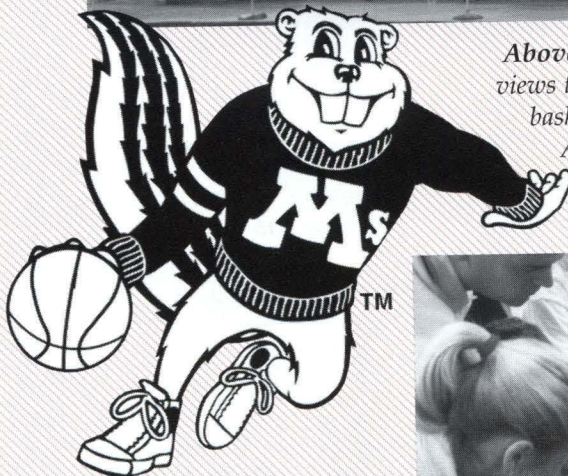
The event took place in Sam Goody Central from 1:00-4:00p.m. in the Mall of America. The team did interviews, drill exhibitions on the court, contests with kids and fans and autograph sessions. The coaches also participated in some drills and did their share of interviews with the audience. The University of Minnesota Cheer Squad also added to the event when they showed their moves during a routine with some stunts and tumbling.

With KS95 as our radio partner, the event drew an estimated audience of 7,000 throughout the three-hour event.

The Gopher women's basketball team plays their first game, an exhibition versus the Houston Jaguars (including former WNBA players) on November 3 in the Sports Pavilion and a second exhibition game versus **Viktorja Basketball Club** (Lithuania Select) on November 8 at 7p.m. Admission for exhibitions is free.



*Above: KS95's Rob Poulin interviews the 2001-02 Gopher women's basketball team at the Mall of America on October 13.*



*Right: Gopher coaches and players huddle up with kids to plan their contest strategy.*



# Development & Fundraising

## WICA Chapter Presidents Club and Women's Athletics Advisory Council Members Recognized

On June 19, 2001, members of the Women's Athletics Chapter of the Presidents Club and the Advisory Council were recognized at Eastcliff.

President's Club members are listed on page 10 of this publication. Advisory Council members for 2001-02 are as follows:

Linda Mona—Chair

Anne Atwood

Ann Barkelew

John Blackshaw

Wendy Williams Blackshaw

Julianne Bye

Holly Callen

Matt Colford

Sage Cowles

John Cowles

Marilyn Doyle

Jim DuBois

Jim Erickson

Priscilla Faris

Cathy Forciea

Susie Goldstein

Karyn Gruenberg

Sue Jaqua

Kim Jeffries

Jill Johnson

Suzanne Joyce

Nancy Lindahl

Claudia Lindell

Lisa Lissimore

Brenda Mathison

Sheran McNulty

Wenda Moore

Dan Olson

Nancy Peterson

Kelly Shasky

Lynnette Sjoquist

Stephanie Smith-Thompson

Robbie Soskin

Leslie Turner

Lee Valsvik

Kristen Vandersall

Chris Voelz

Maxine Wallin

Anne Wight

Bill Wren



*Above: Donor Sally Pillsbury, former Advisory Council Chair Maxine Nathanson, head basketball coach Brenda Oldfield and head soccer coach Barbara Wickstrand pose for a picture during the June 19 reception.*



*Above: University President Mark Yudof shakes the hand of Athletics Director Chris Voelz.*



*Below: Advisory Council Chair Linda Mona addresses the reception at Eastcliff.*

*Right: New Advisory Council Members Sue Jaqua, Karyn Gruenberg, Nancy Peterson and Anne Atwood are introduced.*



*Left: The Eastcliff program closes with the attendees singing the Minnesota Rouser.*

# From the Director's Chair — Chris Voelz

It seems that I am experiencing a little brain gridlock as I approach this rendition of the Director's Column for this Winner's Circle. Though it is probably my 38<sup>th</sup> or so, such column I have yet to be short on ideas, thoughts or words. So what is the difference?

Do I lack of good news to spread? Absolutely not! Be it the winning ways of Gopher volleyball or the great hopes we all hold for Gopher women's basketball under Brenda Oldfield's leadership. They are but two sports of our many who hold success dear or at least near! In terms of academics, we continue to proudly record one of the nation's highest graduation rates and can count on 27 terms as our winning string of departmental achievement of a G.P.A. of 3.0 or higher! And in terms of facilities who among us in Gopher Women's Athletics does not come to work every day appreciative of the Bierman expansion? Thank you to our University for providing us such productive and pleasant spaces. As we make our way throughout the athletics district of the U, who among us has not noticed the growth of the block next to Mariucci and diagonally from the Pavilion? Right before our very

own eyes a Ridder Arena, 3000 seat hockey arena and weight /strength center and Tennis Center is rising! As it grows we are reminded of the many generous people who have made this possible. For others, opportunities will abound over the next months- be they the purchasing of suites, or club memberships or dasher boards or such!

Are there challenges? Of course! Not one of us is immune to the challenges that the nation's economy offers us. And, I believe that intercollegiate athletics has even more challenges than the norm...given the rising costs of everyday non-optional expenses; our desire to compete at an exceptional level and the dependence we have upon the public— for the tickets they buy and the donations they give. We are being called upon to ask the tough questions, make the discerning decisions, be as resourceful as ever and all the while continue our quest towards excellence and fulfillment of our potential with an ever steady eye towards what it takes to progress in terms of our commitment to Title IX and gender equity.

So what is disconcerting and causing me to ponder more than usual? Perhaps it is what the nation

as a whole is experiencing quite uniquely at this particular time in history. Both the tragedies of Sept. 11, as well as the recent passing of a beloved assistant coach ( Kerry O'Keefe), put things in perspective. And perhaps, in its own way, athletics can contribute to our nation's welfare and can serve as an even more vital and valuable vehicle for our nation than before this incident. The athletic experience can demonstrate the values of teamwork, of the need for adherence to rules, of civility even among competitors, of investing each and every day for what it is worth, is worth working for, our ability and capacity to handle challenges, pressure and time constraints; of playing a role for the sake of the greater good of any team, and of staying in shape. So, even in these unique times I know that athletics contributes to our nation's greatness instead of being superfluous to its goals. I hope you feel the same. And, I hope you will continue to support this part of higher education in the stands, through your purse strings or as an advocate. Be safe!

my best,

Go gophs!

*Chris Voelz*



Women's Athletics  
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

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Women's Athletics  
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

# Winner's Circle

Winter 2002

## Women's Athletics Proponents Urge for Continued Support

On January 28-29, the University of Minnesota board of regents Ad Hoc Committee on Athletics held two public forums to hear views on strategies to address the financial challenges facing intercollegiate athletics. A report released in December projected a \$31 million deficit in the men's and women's departments over the next five years.

"While intercollegiate athletics are a valued part of our university community, the department is facing significant budget challenges that will require difficult decisions," Regent David Metzen, committee chair, said prior to the forums. "The comments we receive will help shape the university's response to this financial challenge."

Speakers were asked two



**Senior, hockey co-captain and Team Council tri-chair**  
**Laura Slominski**

*"I have a great appreciation for our separate athletic departments here, because it has given me and so many other women opportunities that we could have only dreamed of. It would be so sad to change this and possibly ruin what has worked so well. I feel that all of my experiences here at the U of M have made me a better person, a better student, and a better athlete."*

questions: what do people value at the university and in the Gopher athletics program, and how would they like to see the university reduce costs and/or increase Gopher athletics revenues?

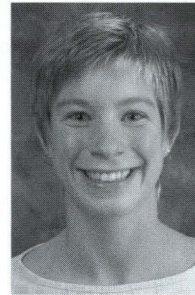
Over the two days of forums, over 4 dozen people shared their views at the McNamara Alumni Center. Speakers included students, coaches, donors and faculty, among others. Some of the most passionate testimony came from Gopher female student-athletes.

This page includes a sample of the comments submitted by forum participants. The Regents' will approve the minutes of these forums at their monthly meeting in early March.



**Senator Ember Reichgott-Junge, District 46**

*"Reversing our strong tradition of maintaining a separate, prestigious women's athletics program sends a damaging message to our young people and all Minnesotans. And what is that damaging message? —That the University is retreating from being a long-term leader in gender equity in higher education —That collegiate sports are more about making money than about building self-esteem and leadership in young women —That the University has weakened a prominent voice for women on campus."*

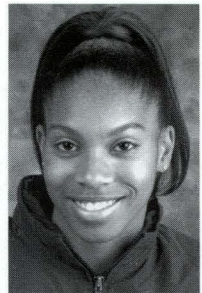


**Junior, swimmer and Team Council tri-chair**  
**Dana Baum**

*"At Minnesota, every day people come to work to ensure that female athletes are being treated with the same respect as the male athletes. We have a staff ... who are out there combing the fields for increased opportunities, counting the pennies of budget allocations and reading every bit of fine print that has to do with the quality of experience that is provided to us as female student-athletes."*

MIW  
995109W

*"I'm African-American, a female and an athlete, and in some classrooms that's three strikes against you." But the people of women's athletics have helped address those pressures and "are great advocates in our lives."*



**Senior, track & field tri-captain**  
**Shannaine Osbourne**



**Donor, fan and Advisory Council Chair**  
**Linda Mona**

*"Let's not destroy a program that is a national model in search of small savings when we are capable of so much more... We don't need to be taken care of; we need the opportunity to continue to develop positive role models while focusing on a program that is still in its relative youth."*

*"Listening over the past two days, I am immensely proud of my fellow student-athletes. Their success and desire to make a difference is a direct result of the culture of WICA. I am also very proud of the donors, alums, staff, and supporters. Their stand demonstrates the impact WICA makes on the community."*



**Senior, rower and Team Council tri-chair**  
**Shelley Miller**

**Mission Statement:** *The Department of Women's Athletics is dedicated to exceeding all others in athletic excellence and academic achievement, to offering compelling experiences to the student-athlete and community, and to providing a diverse environment steeped in integrity, values and vitality.*

## Golden Gopher Hockey Ranked # 1

### Women's Hockey Breaks Its Own Unbeaten Streak



The University of Minnesota women's hockey team solidified its' No. 1 ranking when the Gophers swept Minnesota-Duluth on January 18-19 to gain the top spot in the nation in both the USA Today/US College Hockey Online polls. Minnesota was ranked first in the USCHO poll prior to the WCHA battle against UMD. It was the first time the Gophers were ranked No. 1 this season and first time in the USCHO poll. The last time the Gophers were ranked No. 1 was in the American Hockey Magazine poll, dating back to Oct. 16, 2000.

As of Feb. 18, the Gophers hold a 24-3-5 overall record and a 17-2-3 Western Collegiate Hockey Association-Women's League record. The No. 1 women's hockey team ended its 24-game unbeaten streak on Feb. 16 as the Gophers fell, 2-0, to Wisconsin. It was the first Minne-

sota loss at Mariucci Arena since October 22, 2001. The last time the Gophers were shutout at Mariucci dates back to Dec. 4, 1999, in a 1-0 loss to Minnesota-Duluth.

Senior co-captain Laura Slominski and junior Ronda Curtin have been named as finalists for the Patty Kazmaier Memorial Award. The award recognizes the most outstanding Division I women's hockey player of the year and is awarded at the Kazmaier Banquet which occurs during the Women's Frozen Four Championship, March 23.

Slominski and Curtin are the third and fourth members in



*Far left: Head coach Laura Halldorson discusses strategy with the team during a game.*

*Left and above: Senior co-captain Laura Slominski (21) and junior Ronda Curtin (9) are finalists for the 2002 Patty Kazmaier Award.*

Gopher women's hockey history to make it to the top-10 award finalists. Nadine Muzerall (1997-98) and Courtney Kennedy (2000-01) were also on the list.

Catch Courtney Kennedy as she represents USA Hockey and the University of Minnesota in Salt Lake for the 2002 Winter Olympics.

### The Laura Halldorson Show Airs Thursdays on WMIN

The Laura Halldorson Show, a 30-minute radio program featuring Minnesota head coach Laura Halldorson, airs on WMIN Radio 740 AM, every Thursday at 4:00 p.m. during the 2002 Minnesota women's hockey season. Join host Tom Witschen, Halldorson, and Minnesota's student-athletes throughout the year as they talk about the latest happenings in the Minnesota hockey program. The show also airs simultaneously over the Internet on [www.gophersports.com](http://www.gophersports.com).

## Over 11,000 Ride the Wave to Williams

### Women's Basketball Breaks Records and Earns National Rankings

In front of a record setting crowd of 11,389 on January 27, the No. 23/25 University of Minnesota women's basketball team downed the Indiana Hoosiers, 75-60 in Williams Arena. The win upped the Golden Gophers to 15-4 overall and 5-3 in the Big Ten Conference.

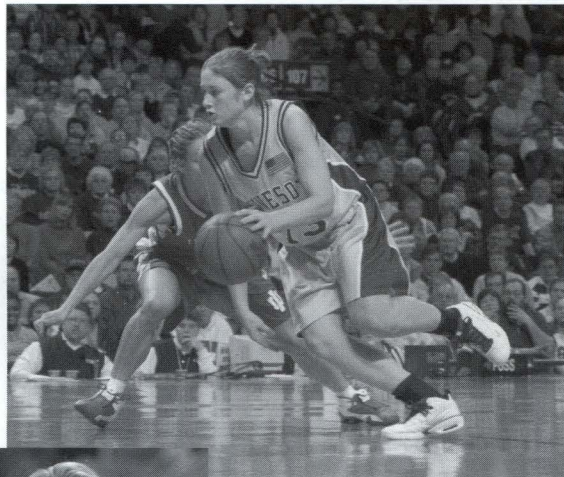
"What a great moment for Golden Gopher women's basketball," Minnesota head coach Brenda Oldfield said. "The players deserve to play in that kind of atmosphere. The crowd definitely made a difference for us in the second half."

The previous attendance record to view a Golden Gopher women's basketball game was 6,746 in an 80-70 victory over Indiana on Jan. 24, 1993. Lindsey Whalen Whalen scored a team-high 22 points, along with five assists and five rebounds. Whalen scored 18 points in the second half.

As of January 22, the University of Minnesota women's basketball game versus Indiana on Sunday was moved to Williams Arena from the Sports Pavilion due to a burst water pipe that flooded the arena on Saturday, January 19.

The "Pack the Pav" promotion

*Below: Lindsay Whalen drives around Indiana's Heather Cassidy in front of a record-breaking crowd; Head coach Brenda Oldfield urges on her team; Williams Arena on January 27.*



The basketball team was ranked No. 14 in the Feb. 18 Associated Press Top 25 Women's College Basketball Poll. The ranking was the highest in school history, improving the No. 15 position the Gophers held the week before and for four weeks during the 1980-81 season. This ranking placed the Gophers among the nation's top 25 for the fifth consecutive week.

was renamed to "Ride the Wave to Williams." The then-No. 23 Golden Gophers hoped to break the all-time Minnesota women's basketball attendance mark of 6,746 set in

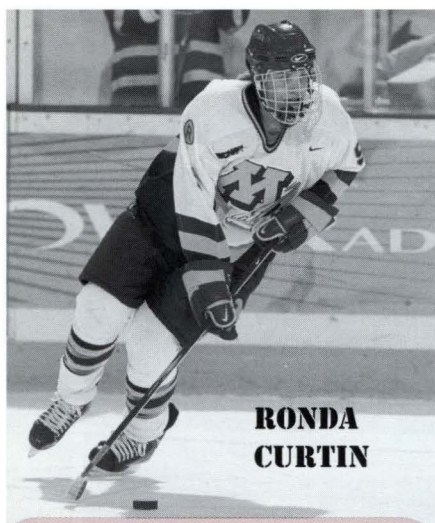
January 1993 in a game versus Indiana in Williams Arena. The Gophers have played in the Sports Pavilion since the 1993-94 season.

A 3-inch sprinkler main pipe located at the west end of the Pavilion burst on January 19. Crew were able to remove the standing water and hold a women's gymnastics meet in the arena that evening but the damage to the basketball court was irreparable. See page 6 for photos of clean-up.

#### The Brenda Oldfield Show Airs Wednesdays on WMIN

The Brenda Oldfield Show, a 30-minute radio program featuring Minnesota head coach Brenda Oldfield, airs on WMIN Radio 740 AM, every Wednesday at 4:00 p.m. during the 2002 Minnesota women's basketball season. Join host Tom Witschen, Oldfield, and Minnesota's student-athletes throughout the year as they talk about the latest happenings in the Minnesota basketball program. The show also airs simultaneously over the Internet on [www.gophersports.com](http://www.gophersports.com).

# Gopher Athletes' Great Performances



**RONDA  
CURTIN**

## Minnesota's WCHA Player of the Week Honoree

- » Nov. 15 — Ronda Curtin (v. St. Cloud State)
- » Feb. 11 — Ronda Curtin (v. Ohio State)

## Minnesota's WCHA Rookie of the Week Honorees

- » Oct. 15 — Kelly Stephens (v. Minnesota State, Mankato)
- » Oct. 22 — Brenda Reinen (v. Minnesota-Duluth)
- » Nov. 12 — Kristy Oonincx (v. Bemidji State)
- » Nov. 26 — Jody Horak (v. Dartmouth/New Hampshire)
- » Dec. 3 — Kelly Stephens (v. Wisconsin)
- » Jan. 8 — Kelly Stephens (v. SCSU/St. Lawrence)
- » Jan. 21 — Jody Horak (v. Minnesota-Duluth)
- » Feb. 4 — Kristy Oonincx (v. Minnesota State, Mankato)
- » Feb. 11 — Brenda Reinen (v. Ohio State)

## Minnesota's US College Hockey Online Players of the Week

- » Nov. 5 — Kelly Stephens (v. Ohio State)
- » Jan. 22 — Jody Horak and Brenda Reinen (v. UMD)

## USCHO Defensive Players of the Week

Minnesota's Brenda Reinen and Jody Horak were named the *US College Hockey Online* Defensive Players of the Week for their performances against then No. 2 Minnesota-Duluth on Jan. 18-19.

Reinen was in net for the No. 1 Golden Gophers the first night as Minnesota won 1-0. Reinen stopped all 42 Bulldog shots on goal, her career high in her first year at Minnesota. It was Reinen's first shutout in her Gopher career. Of her 14 games this year, she holds a 10-1-3 record.

Horak received the starting nod in Saturday's game and picked up where Reinen left off. Horak, also a rookie, had 41 of 42 possible saves to aid Minnesota in the 3-1 victory and sweep over the Bulldogs. Horak in goal holds a 12-1-2 record in 15 starts.

## Ronda Curtin Named WCHA Player of the Week

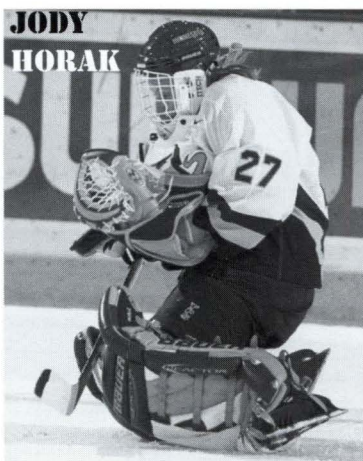
Minnesota junior Ronda Curtin was named the Western Collegiate Hockey Association-Women's League Player of the Week for the second time this year after her performance against Ohio State on Feb. 9. Her first honor came after her game against St. Cloud State on Dec. 14.

Curtin had the game-winning goal in the 2-1 overtime win against then No. 8 Ohio State. It was her third game-winning goal of the season. Curtin, a defender for the 2001-02 campaign, leads the Gophers with 36 points as of Feb. 9. She leads the WCHA in defense scoring and in assists and is second in the conference in points scored.

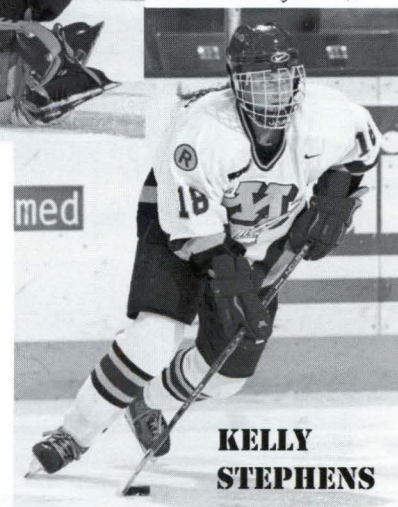
## Rookie Sensations

Four Gophers have earned WCHA Rookie of the Week honors for their performances this season. Kelly Stephens was awarded the first honor for her three points against Minnesota State, Mankato in the opening series, Oct. 12-13. Brenda Reinen was honored twice for aiding the Gophers in a tie against Minnesota-Duluth (Oct. 21) and in the overtime win against Ohio State (Feb. 9). Kristy Oonincx also earned the award twice, scoring four points against Bemidji State (Nov. 10-11) and five points against Minn. State, Mankato (Feb. 1-2). The fourth Gopher, Jody Horak, was also honored twice for her starts in goal in games versus Dartmouth and New Hampshire (Nov. 24-25) and for her 41 saves in the second game of the Minnesota-Duluth series. Horak stopped 74 shots on goal against two of the top three teams in the country that weekend.

Stephens earned the award two additional times, scoring five points against Wisconsin (Nov. 30-Dec. 1) and tallying five points on the week of wins over St. Cloud State (Jan. 5) and St. Lawrence (Jan. 7).



**JODY  
HORAK**



**KELLY  
STEPHENS**



# Gopher Athletes' Great Performances

## Whalen Named Big Ten Player of the Week... Again!

Sophomore point guard Lindsay Whalen was named the Big Ten Women's Basketball Co-Player of the Week Feb. 18 after leading the then-No. 15 Gopher squad to an upset of then-No. 7 Purdue on Feb. 14. Whalen has been awarded the Big Ten Player of the Week citation five times this season, the most ever in the Big Ten by a player in a single season.

A leading candidate for Big Ten Player of the Year honors, she scored a career-high 41 points against Purdue. It was the fourth 30-plus game of her career, beating her previous point-high of 34 versus Iowa on Feb. 3.

## Bahmer Named Big Ten Diver of the Week

Junior Kim Bahmer received her first Big Ten Diver of the Week honor after posting two NCAA zone qualifying marks at the Minnesota Challenge. Bahmer's three-meter score of 512.65 was the fifth-best in Golden Gopher history.

## Harrigan Repeats Big Ten Athlete of the Week Honors

Tahesia Harrigan earns Conference honors for the second time this season after claiming two first-place finishes at Parents' Day Open on Feb. 16. Her long jump of 19'1/2" was the sixth-best mark in Minnesota history. She also placed third all-time in school history with 39.61 seconds in the 300-meter dash. She was honored earlier this season for her three wins at the Minnesota Quad on Jan. 19.

## Baum Repeats Big Ten Swimmer of the Week Honors

Junior Dana Baum was named women's swimming and diving Big Ten Athlete of the Week on Dec. 3, repeating the honors she earned on Nov. 6.

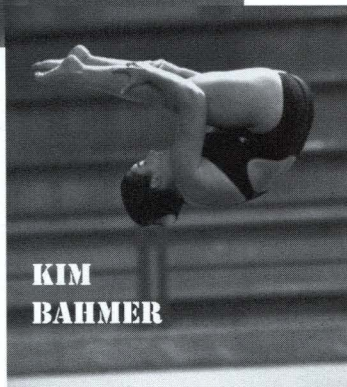
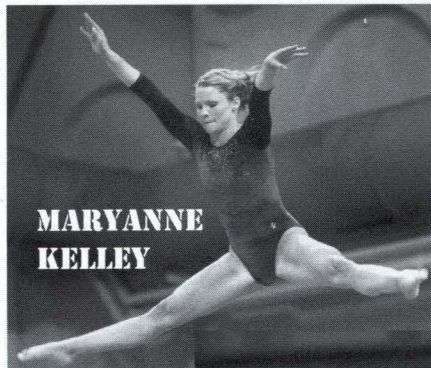
At the Georgia Invitational, Baum qualified for nationals in four individual events and one relay. She swam a career best time of 4:47.81 to win the 500 freestyle, the second best time in school history. Baum placed second in the 200 freestyle with a NCAA automatic qualifying time of 1:47.75, breaking the school record that she set last year in the event. Both Baum's 200 and 500 freestyle events ranked her first in the Big Ten and sixth and fourth, respectively, in the nation.

## Kelley Earns Second Big Ten Gymnast of the Week Honor

Senior MaryAnne Kelley was named the Big Ten Conference Women's Co-Gymnast of the Week for the second

time this season for the week of Feb. 20.

Kelley had a spectacular weekend against the Iowa and Iowa State. Against Iowa State, she scored a near-perfect 9.95 on balance beam, tying the Gophers all-time top score. Against Iowa, Kelley did not score less than 9.85 in any event to total a 39.600 all-around score, setting the highest mark in school history.



## Minnesota's Big Ten Women's Basketball Player of the Week

- » Nov. 19 — Lindsay Whalen (Minnesota Classic)
- » Nov. 26 — Lindsay Whalen (Hawaii Tournament)
- » Jan. 21 — Lindsay Whalen (v. Michigan/Wisconsin)
- » Feb. 4 — Lindsay Whalen (v. Illinois/Iowa)
- » Feb. 18 — Lindsay Whalen (v. Purdue; co-player)

## Minnesota's Big Ten Women's Swimmer/Diver of the Week

- » Nov. 6 — Dana Baum (v. North Carolina/Michigan)
- » Dec. 3 — Dana Baum (Georgia Invitational)
- » Jan. 14 — Megan Moore (v. California)
- » Feb. 12 — Kim Bahmer (Minnesota Challenge)

## Minnesota's Big Ten Women's Gymnast of the Week

- » Jan. 14 — MaryAnne Kelley (v. Stanford)
- » Feb. 18 — MaryAnne Kelley (v. Iowa/Iowa State; co-gymnast)

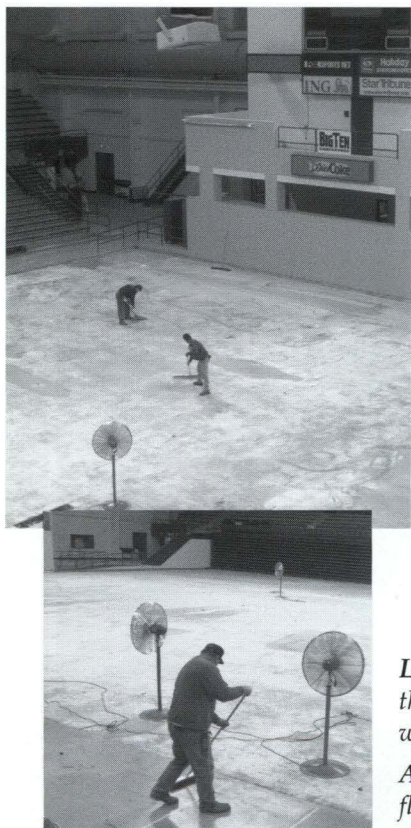
## Minnesota's Big Ten Women's Track & Field Athlete of the Week

- » Jan. 22 — Tahesia Harrigan (Minnesota Quad)
- » Feb. 19 — Tahesia Harrigan (Parents' Day Open)

## Moore Earns Big Ten Swimmer of the Week Honors

Gopher sophomore Megan Moore was named women's Big Ten Swimmer of the Week on Jan. 14. She clocked two first-place finishes in the 50-meter and the 200-meter backstroke events to help lead the No. 22 Gophers to a 110-95 victory over No. 6 California. Moore is currently ranked 40th in the nation in the 200-meter backstroke.

# Women's Athletics News...



*Left: Facilities staff work to dry and clean the Pavilion floor after the warped boards were stripped and trashed.*



*Above: Board by board, the new Pavilion floor is laid in place.*

## Sports Pavilion Floor Flooded: Events Moved to Williams Arena

On January 19, a 3-inch sprinkler main pipe located at the west end of the Pavilion burst. Facilities staff later assessed that the damage to the basketball court was irreparable. The floor is currently being replaced and all events have been moved to Williams Arena.

## Nineteen Student-Athletes Earn Academic All-Big Ten Honors

Nineteen women athletes were among Minnesota's 34 student-athletes to earn Academic All-Big Ten recognition for fall 2001 sports.

Two female student-athletes who earned All-Big Ten recognition were named to the Academic All-Big Ten list. Seniors Lindsey Berg and Stephanie Hagen, are three-time selections on both the All-Big Ten team and Academic All-Big Ten team. Berg recorded a 3.53 in marketing, while Hagen marked a 3.21 in speech communication and sports management.

To be eligible for academic honors, an athlete must be a letterwinner in at least her second academic year at the institution, and carry a career grade-point average of 3.0 or higher.

Including Berg and Hagen, seven volleyball student-athletes were named to the Academic All-Big Ten team. Sophomore Cassie Busse owns the highest GPA of Minnesota student-athletes listed in the fall season with a 3.96 GPA. Other honorees are Lisa Axel, Erin Lorenzen, Carrie Noble and Kelli Wicks.

Seven members of the women's cross country team received academic all-conference accolades. Sophomore Laura Bjork earned an impressive 3.93 to lead the cross country GPA's for the fall season. Others to earn honors were Jill Field, Anita Menden, Victoria Moses, Jenny Moylan, Amy Sas and Darja Vasiljeva.

The soccer team had five student-athletes named to the academic all conference team. Junior Keely Dinse recorded a 3.75 GPA in fisheries and wildlife, and senior Julie Eibensteiner earned a 3.72 in kinesiology. Others honored were Sarah FitzGerald, Alison Rackley and Rachael Roth.

## Basketball Team Participates in Lawson All-Star Reading Program

The Golden Gopher women's basketball team, the St. Paul school district and Lawson Software have teamed to present the Lawson All-Star Reading Team program.

Twelve St. Paul Public Schools, including middle and junior high schools totaling close to 7,000 6th and 7th graders and 150 teachers, are participating in the program. Students are expected to read 25 books over the calendar year. The readers who have read 15 of their books by Feb. 1 were named to the Lawson All-Star Reading Team. All-Star Team members were awarded a free ticket to the Minnesota women's basketball game on Feb. 24. Students and teachers are also invited to learn more about "Attending College" in a pre-game session, presented by U of M admissions representative and basketball alumnae,

Crystal Flint-Hollomon.

"I have always loved to read," said Minnesota head basketball coach Brenda Oldfield. "Even in the busiest time of the basketball season, I still take time out to read. It's the hobby of a lifetime."

An important part of WICA's mission statement addresses the academic excellence of its student-athletes. Women's Athletics has accomplished a departmental grade-point-average of above 3.0 for 28 consecutive academic terms.



*Above: Gopher basketball player Lindsay Lieser signs a student's book after the reading program kicked off on Dec. 17.*

# Women's Athletics News...

## Golden Gopher Women Record 28th Consecutive Term with 3.0 Cumulative GPA

For the 28th consecutive term, the University of Minnesota women student-athletes compiled a cumulative grade point average at or above 3.00.

The cumulative GPA for fall semester 2001 was 3.18. The last time the department's GPA was under 3.0 was at the conclusion of fall quarter, 1991. Of the 298 student-athletes in Women's Athletics, 201 (67 percent) recorded a GPA at or above 3.0 for the fall semester, with 19 (six percent) recording perfect 4.0 GPAs.

"We are appreciative, thrilled and affirmed by the priorities,

efforts and accomplishments of the student-athletes who have kept the string of academic terms at or above a 3.0 GPA for 28 complete academic terms," said Women's Athletics director Chris Voelz. "This shows the very best of intercollegiate athletics, where we are able to excel in both athletics and academics. Heartfelt thanks to the coaches and academic counselors for their support in this mission!"

Of the department's 12 sports, 10 had cumulative GPAs at or above 3.00, with the tennis team posting a department-high 3.47 GPA.

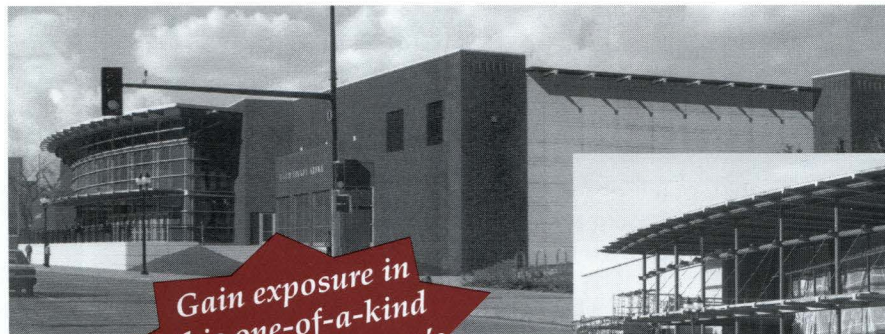
## Athletics Director Voelz Awarded the Flame of Courage

Women's Athletics Director Chris Voelz was recognized on Thursday, January 31, at the Minnesota Women's Consortium 22nd Anniversary Celebration. The Consortium presented Voelz with the Flame of Courage award, given to an individual who is "the wonderful example of courage and strength it takes to keep a program she believes in moving forward against many obstacles."

Held at the Bandana Square Event Center, the theme for the evening was "Women Strong & Healthy" and was attended by about 200 people. The script from Chris' acceptance speech is included in her column on page 16.

## RIDDER ARENA

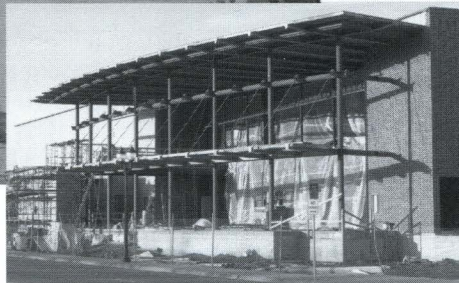
opening October 19, 2002



*Gain exposure in this one-of-a-kind facility for women's hockey today!*

*Reasons for your company to seize the Ridder Arena opportunity:*

- receive local impact and national recognition,
- impact a family-friendly, female-skewed audience,
- access area youth,
- affiliate your company with an athletics department that boasts 10+ years of cumulative grade point averages of 3.0 or higher.



*Far left: Graphic composite of the hockey-tennis facility.*

*Left and above: The Ridder Arena and Tennis Facility construction progress as of December, 2001.*

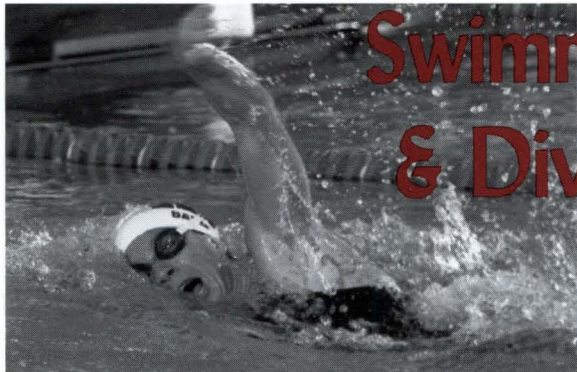
Be a part of one of the nation's most exciting opportunities for women's athletics. The Ridder Arena will be the first facility in the nation constructed exclusively for women's hockey! Don't miss this chance to lead the charge in supporting women's hockey, especially with the Gopher women's hockey team who's history includes a National Championship. Now is the time to create your partnership with the University of Minnesota Women's Athletics Department and the Ridder Arena.

**To be a part of this exciting opportunity, please contact Natasha Freimark at 612-624-6336 or Wes Sweetser at 612-624-1655.**

*SUITES (9 available) • CLUBROOM (accommodates 125 people) • SIGNAGE/ADVERTISING (including scoreboard, dasher boards, in-ice logos and more!)*

# Winter Sports Update

*Below: Junior Dana Baum is the team's sole returning competitor from last year's NCAA Championships.*



## Swimming & Diving

- » Junior Dana Baum has qualified for the 2002 NCAA Championships in the 100, 200, 500 and 1650 freestyles. Baum currently is 11th in the nation in the 200 and 12th in the nation in the 500.
- » The Gophers finished their 2001-02 dual meet season 4-5 overall and 2-4 in the Big Ten. They compete at the 2002 Big Ten Championships in Ann Arbor, Mich. on Feb. 21-23.
- » Minnesota has provisionally qualified five swimmers in ten events for the 2002 NCAA Championships, as well as five divers in seven events for NCAA Diving Zones.

## Basketball

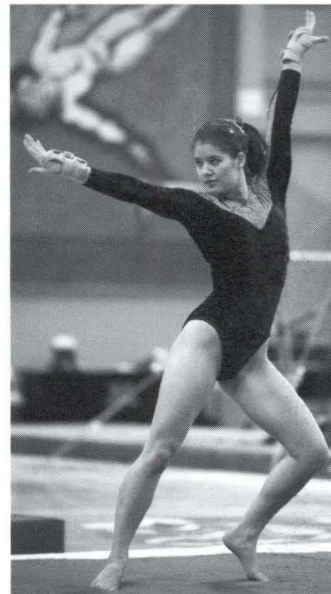


*Right: Junior Corrin Von Wald drives down court.*

- » As of Feb. 22, the Gophers were ranked 14th in the nation and second in the Big Ten with an overall record of 21-5, 11-4 in the conference.
- » Minnesota set a Gopher women's basketball attendance record at their Jan. 27 game versus Indiana, pulling in 11,389 fans to Williams Arena.
- » Sophomore Lindsay Whalen is a leading candidate for Big Ten Player of the Year and All-America, first year Janel McCarville is a candidate for Big Ten Freshman of the Year, and coach Brenda Oldfield is a candidate for the Naismith College Basketball Coach of the Year.

8 • **Winner's Circle**

*Right: Sophomore Mary Skokut won the All-Around competition against Ohio State.*



## Gymnastics

- » Minnesota was ranked No. 11 in the Feb. 18 edition of the GymInfo national ranking, based on season average.
- » Minnesota was ranked 10th on balance beam, with an average of 48.655 and 10th on bars averaging a 48.775.
- » As of Feb. 18, the Gophers' posted a 8-2 dual-meet record.



## Hockey

*Above: Goalie Brenda Reinen makes another save.*

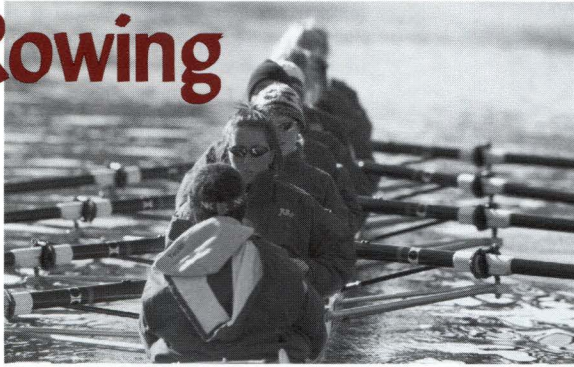
- » The 2001-02 Gophers have been ranked No. 1 in the country since Jan. 20, and as of Feb. 15, had an unbeaten streak of 24 games.
- » Two of the ten candidates for the 2002 Patty Kazmaier Award are Gophers — junior Ronda Curtin and senior Laura Slominski.
- » A tie or win over St. Cloud State on March 1 will give the Gopher's the WCHA Champion berth and an automatic bid to the NCAA Women's Frozen Four on March 22-24.

**Women's Athletics — Winter 2002**

# Spring Sports Preview

## Track & Field

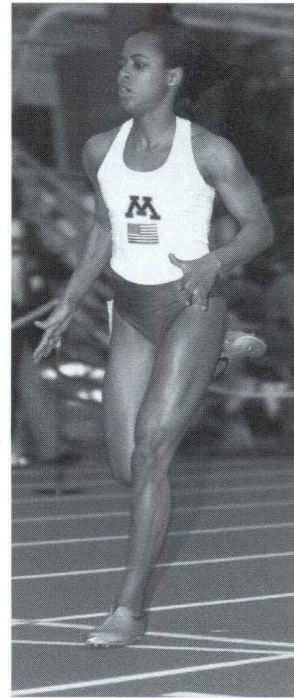
## Rowing



*Above: A varsity eight prepares for competition at last fall's Twin Cities All Comers Regatta.*

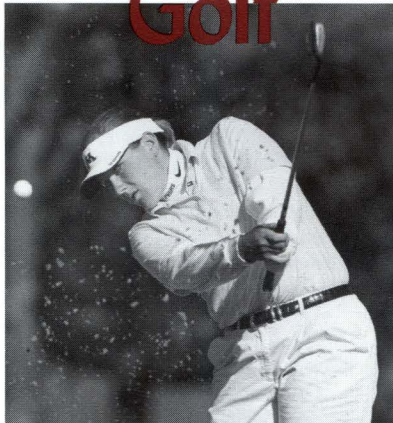
- « Minnesota's varsity and novice teams combined for five first, second and third-place finishes at the Head of the Iowa Regatta for its last fall competition.
- « Minnesota returns to action March 9 at 11 a.m. in a home dual against St. Thomas.
- « Junior Beth Hornby was named the 2001 Rowing Canada Aviron Sculler of the Year.

- » Sophomore Tahesia Harrigan has provisionally qualified in the 60-meter dash for the Indoor NCAA Championships. Her time ranked her second fastest in the Big Ten.
- » Minnesota scored 126 points at the Gold Country Classic to tie for first with OSU.
- » Sophomore Elizabeth Woolford has won the 60-meter hurdles in three of her five meets this season.
- » The Gophers compete in the 2002 Indoor Track & Field Big Ten Championships on Feb. 23-24.



*Above: Sprinter Tahesia Harrigan has already provisionally qualified for NCAAs.*

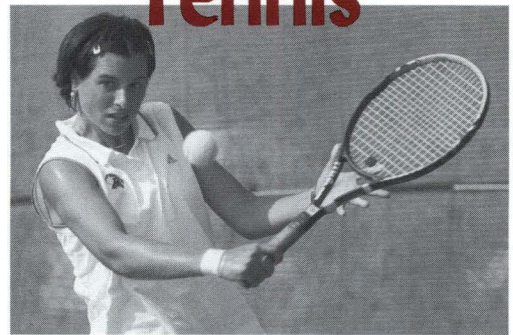
## Golf



*Left: Golfer Megan Stier is one of four seniors on this year's team.*

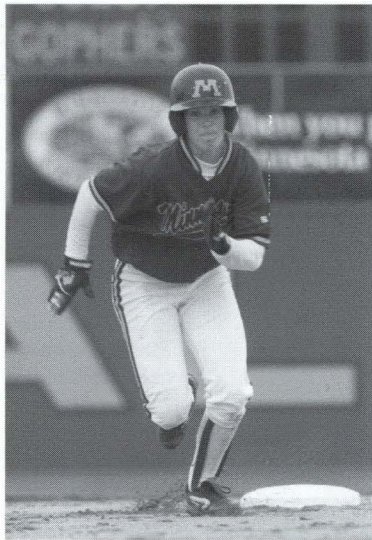
- » The Gophers open their spring season March 4-5 at the Verizon "Mo"riam Inv. in Texas.
- » Junior Karyn Stordahl finished with a fall average of 75.58, the third-best in Gopher history.
- » The Gophers placed in the top 10 in each of their fall invitationals.

## Tennis



*Above: Sophomore Valerie Vladea earned All-Big Ten honors in her rookie season.*

## Softball



*Right: Senior Tammi Hays earned All-Region honors in 2000 and 2001.*

- « Minnesota's pitchers had an ERA of 1.01 last season, which ranked 10th in the NCAA.
- « In 2001, the team (36-22-1, 7-13 Big Ten) earned its sixth consecutive winning season.
- « For the second season, the Gophers won the IronKids Softball Classic. Tournament MVP was pitcher Piper Marten.
- » Gopher tennis finished the Minnesota Court Classic with a 5-2 win over Marquette University. The Gophers won the third-place match with five wins in singles competition.
- » Kristin Sanderson was named assistant tennis coach Dec. 17. A former member of the Duke tennis team, she helped the team to four straight NCAA national semifinal matches.

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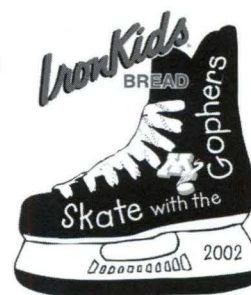
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Contact Kari Sternitzky, Sponsorship Coordinator at 612-626-1064 with your questions or for sponsorship opportunities.

## IronKids Bread Skate with the Gophers!

Join the Women's Hockey team on February 24 for an



afternoon of skating! For only \$6.00, children 13 and under get to meet and skate with the entire Gopher Women's Hockey team, hang out with Goldy and receive a free small pop and popcorn from 1-3pm.

Call 612-624-8080 for more information and to order tickets!

\*Our sincere appreciation to all of our donors and corporate partners. This list includes gifts made from July 1, 2000 to June 30, 2001. If you are not included on the list, it was done so inadvertently, and we'd like to hear from you so that we may recognize you in the next Winner's Circle.

# Marketing & Promotions

## Lawson Ms. Gopher Golf

- Date:** June 3, 2002  
**Place:** Les Bolstad Golf Course, St. Paul, MN  
**Why:** To raise money for the Berg Fund which helps women fulfill their dream of participating in collegiate athletics and working towards an undergraduate degree  
**Times:** 8am-12:30pm Maroon Scramble  
12:30-1:30pm Lunch (included for all attendees)  
1:30-5:45pm Gold Scramble  
**Guests:** U of M women's head golf coach Melissa Arthur Ringler and assistant coach Andi Schultz, golf student-athletes, other WICA head coaches and student-athletes and alumnae  
**Prizes:** Awarded to top co-ed teams, men's teams and women's teams; additional prizes awarded at specific holds

Register today! Call 612-624-0800.

## The Gold Country Run/Walk and Gopher Fan Fest

- Date:** June 1, 2002  
**Place:** University of Minnesota Campus  
**Time:** 5 K Run - 9:30am  
Gopher Fan Fest - 9:45am  
Course Closes - 10:30am  
Goldy's Gallop for Kids - 10:30am  
**Prices:** \$15.00 Pre-registration for Gold Country Run/Walk  
\$20.00 Day of event for Gold Country Run/Walk  
\$7.00 Pre-registration for Goldy's Gallop  
\$10.00 Day of event for Goldy's Gallop

Register NOW! Gold Country Run/Walk participation is limited to the first 2000 runners/walkers who register. Call 612-624-0800!

Fun for  
the whole  
family!



*Above: Gopher rowing coach Wendy Davis and hockey coach Laura Halldorson discuss weather with KARE 11's Ken Barlow.*

### Coaches Contribute with KARE 11 to Toys for Tots

At the annual Women's Athletics holiday gathering, staff and coaches were asked to bring toys to donate to Toys for Tots. Hockey coach Laura Halldorson, rowing coach Wendy Davis, marketing staff and Goldy Gopher delivered the sleigh-full of donated toys to the KARE 11 News Station, a drop-off location for Toys for Tots.

Coach Halldorson, Coach Davis and Goldy participated in the KARE 11 weather segment with Ken Barlow that December evening.

## Ms. Gopher Fall Auction

November 24, 2001  
3:30-5:30 p.m.  
Sports Pavilion

The 2001 Ms. Gopher Fall Auction was a success! With a large attendance and wonderful donations from local area and national businesses, the Gopher Women's Athletics Department was able to raise over \$18,000.

The auction took place in the Sports Pavilion prior to the Gopher volleyball game vs. Penn State.

Thank you to all who donated and attended! All money raised was donated to the Women's Athletics Berg Fund.



*Above: Auction attendees mill around the Gold Concourse of the Sports Pavilion, scouring for special items on which to bid.*

# Development & Fundraising

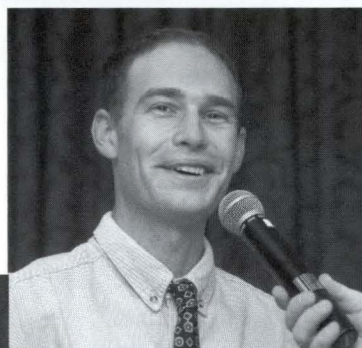
## Final Inner Circle Brings Together Fans, Staff, Student-Athletes and Friends of Women's Athletics

On February 12, Women's Athletics hosted its final Inner Circle gathering of the school year. What was scheduled to be the last Inner Circle, on April 16, was cancelled due to budget cuts, making the winter meeting all the more athletics-packed.

The six sports highlighted at the February breakfast were hockey, gymnastics, golf, track and field, tennis and softball. WMIN's Tom Witschen was the event's emcee. As part of the Inner Circle program, he interviewed the head coaches and a student-athlete from each of the six featured sports. The morning also included a Director's Report from Chris Voelz, Catching up with Alum Meghan Sonstegard, brag-a-buck and prizes for attendees.



*Left: Emcee Tom Witschen interviews student-athlete MaryAnne Kelley about her continued success with Minnesota gymnastics.*



*Left: Head tennis coach Tyler Thomson gets his first experience as interviewee at an Inner Circle event.*

*Right: Swimming & Diving alumna Meghan Sonstegard discusses her enriching experience over her four years with Women's Athletics and the University.*



*Right: Head hockey coach Laura Halldorson smirks at the reference to her pre-season assertion that this season would be a "rebuilding year" for her team.*



*Below: Softball head coaches Julie Stander and Lisa Bernstein talk stick and speed to the Inner Circle audience.*



*Above: Track & field thrower Alean Frawley, tennis player Amy Thomas, gymnast MaryAnne Kelley and golfer Karyn Stordahl lead the Rouser to close the meeting.*

# From the Director's Chair — Chris Voelz

Winner Circle Readers,

After contemplating my message for this issue, I became frustrated with which one to select. There is never a dull moment in intercollegiate athletics and we currently have more than our share of great news and challenging times! I decided that my acceptance speech for the Flame of Courage award, given to me recently by the Minnesota Women's Consortium, gave me an opportunity to share some feelings that transcend those topics. (The "Judy" and "Lisa" I refer to are two of our donors and friends, Lisa Lissimore and Judy Mahle Lutter — also award recipients.)

*"My mother — a woman ahead of her time and whom we lost way before her time — always reminded the family that you are judged by the company you keep. If Betty could only see me tonight! In the company of recipients Judy and Lisa and in the company of you, the female fabric of Minnesota, a fabric very special, very strong and very important, I am particularly honored to have been named the recipient of the Flame of Courage award. In keeping with the visual of a flame, let me accept by way of ideas about flames and fires.*

*Little did I know that what I did in 1957 would be the spark to ignite the fire for my entire lifework! I, Christie Voelz,*

*assumed the alias of "Chris," tucked my hair behind my ears, donned a baseball hat and played Little League on an all-boys team because I wanted to do what I loved, and I couldn't understand why I wasn't allowed to be on the team. It wasn't long before I also thought I could be captain, help to lead and make some decisions as well. Little did I know that in the year 2002, there would still be a need to work to keep women on the team.*

*But you all know about this challenge, for it is your story, too. It is our story of a burning passion to include females in the fabric of all that society does. I have been most fortunate to be able to kindle the spirits of justice and fairness through women in sport in higher education.*

*I've had my share of sparks flying. Perhaps that is why you have selected me to receive this award of courage. I'm not sure that it has been as much courage as conviction. I'm not sure that it has been as much courage as commitment. But I am sure that for the past 30 years of my career, I have had more gifts bestowed on me than anyone could hope for — gifts of progress; gifts of the smiles, victories and diplomas of thousands of young women; gifts of a close association with very special people, many of whom are here tonight. You constitute the best fire brigade anyone could ever dream of — the unit that rushes to any location where there is trouble and makes it better! What a team you have been.*

*We are told as children not to play with fire, but as a Girl Scout I was taught to make fire and the fire of advocacy still burns. I hope that there is something in each of our lives about which we care so dearly, where the fires burn so deeply, that when we are called into action to fan the flames — the flames of fairness — we can withstand the adversity and do what is necessary to make this a better place — a place where women and men can be on whatever kind of team they choose, a place where men and women can both be at the table, where they each have voices, where they can make a difference for today and tomorrow.*

*Flames can burn uncontrollably and flames can heat comfortably. Let us always know the difference between the two. I hope that we will manage to carry the flames of courage without our spirits or souls going up into flames and pass the torch to the next generation.*

*I love Eleanor Roosevelt's quote, "Women are like tea, they only know their strength when they are in hot water." Well, I never meant to be in hot water, but once in it, we truly do know our strength. And we know to what we will compromise and to what we will holdfast. What a gift.*

*If I am the recipient of the Flame of Courage, then your belief in me and support of me are the comfort of a fireplace on a chilly Minnesota night."*

*my best,*

*Go gophers!*

*Chris Voelz*



Women's Athletics  
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

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516 15th Ave. SE  
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Women's Athletics  
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

# Winner's Circle

Summer 2002

## Farewell to Women's Athletics

### After 27 years of autonomy, athletics departments merge

The Women's Athletics Department was formed by University President C. Peter Magrath in 1975. Magrath named Dr. Belmar Gunderson as its first director. The department served approximately 160 student-athletes at that time, none of them receiving athletic scholarships. The following year, the Berg Fund was established to raise money for scholarships for female student-athletes.

Since its humble beginnings, Minnesota Women's Athletics has garnered one team national champion, three individual national champions, an NCAA Top Six award winner, an American record-holder and eight national top-10 team finishes. The department currently serves 311 women student-athletes on 12 teams.

After 27 years of autonomy, the university administration, under great financial pressure, presented a plan to the board of regents recommending the merger of Women's and Men's Athletics. On Thursday, April 11, University of Minnesota President Mark Yudof released the plan that proposed to trim a projected \$21 million budget deficit in intercollegiate athletics by \$8.5 million over the next five years.

The three-phase plan, developed by Tonya Moten Brown, vice

president and chief of staff, was built on expense reductions and new investments. It included reorganizing the separate men's and women's athletics departments into one, reducing expenses by nearly \$4.4 million over five years, and \$1.25 million in new investments to improve financial management and fundraising and development capacity in the department. The plan also included a recommendation that three of the university's 23 teams, men's and women's golf and men's gymnastics, be eliminated.

"This plan is an important step toward ensuring that intercollegiate athletics lives within its means," said Yudof. "I believe that the actions we take today will strengthen intercollegiate athletics at the University of Minnesota, and our student athletes will enjoy even greater levels of competitive and academic success."

The reorganization of the department was a necessary first step, Moten Brown explained. "Streamlining administrative functions and improving efficiency is our first choice for reducing costs," she said. "In our judgment, separate departments have fostered competition and rivalry, which has undermined collaboration and contributed to the financial chal-

lenge we face today."

A national search began immediately for a new athletics director, and implementation of the new structure will begin by July 1. In remarks on the reorganization, Yudof reiterated his support for women's athletics. "We will look for a leader with a demonstrated record of supporting and encouraging women's athletics and female student athletes. We expect women to hold leadership roles in the department and have an equal place at the table."

A week after announcing the elimination of three sports, the university extended the deadline for action from 2002 to 2003. It was also revised to include two goals supporters of the teams needed to meet in order to extend the teams beyond July 1, 2003. The first goal, to raise \$900,000 by June 30, was met in May (see article on page 3). The second goal is to raise an additional \$1.8 million by February 1, 2003, which would extend the teams through 2005, at which time the university will reevaluate the department's financial condition and determine if new expense reductions are necessary.

A final decision on the intercollegiate athletics plan and budget will be presented by President Yudof and Vice President Moten Brown at the board of regents meeting on June 14.

Please see page 16 for the official response to the plan from Athletics Director Chris Voelz.

***Mission Statement:** The Department of Women's Athletics is dedicated to exceeding all others in athletic excellence and academic achievement, to offering compelling experiences to the student-athlete and community, and to providing a diverse environment steeped in integrity, values and vitality.*

## Final Berg Celebration Brings Reflection and Recognition

The 28th Berg Celebration took place on April 30 at the McNamara Alumni Center. This annual event honors the academic and athletic accomplishments of Minnesota's female student-athletes throughout the 2002-03 school year. Minnesota Public Radio's Cathy Wurzer presided as the evening's celebrity emcee.

Berg recognition included All-American honors, Coach of the Year honors, Endowed & Designated Scholarship winners, Patty Berg Academic Awards, the Community Service Award and a Special Presentation to Director Chris Voelz. The two most prestigious awards presented at the event are Senior Athlete of the Year and the Big Ten Medal of Honor.

Gymnast MaryAnne Kelley was the 2002 Senior Athlete of the Year. The honoree is voted on by the student-athletes, based on athletic and academic performance and character and leadership abilities.

The 2002 winner of the Big Ten Medal of Honor was volleyball player Lindsey Berg. This honor is the highest award bestowed upon a student-athlete in the Big Ten Conference, going to a senior student-athlete who represents the best achievements in academic excellence, athletic achievement and leadership.

*Below: MaryAnne Kelley accepts the 2002 Senior Athlete of the Year award. To her right is 1995 Senior Athlete of the Year Kara Martin; on her left is Athletics Director Chris Voelz.*

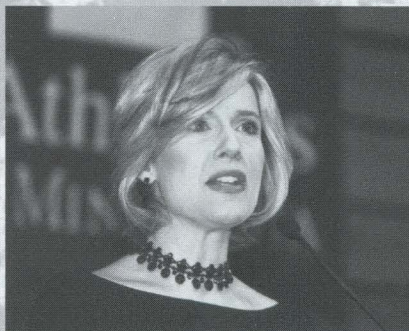


*Left: Team Council Tri-Chairs Laura Slominski, Shelley Miller and Dana Baum present Athletics Director Chris Voelz with carnations during the Tribute to the Director.*



*Left: Hockey head coach Laura Halldorson, the AHCA National Coach of the Year, poses with benefactor Kathleen Ridder and Athletics Director Chris Voelz.*

*Right: Minnesota Public Radio host Cathy Wurzer greets the crowd at the McNamara Alumni Center.*



*Above: Four of the top five academic student-athletes were in attendance at the Berg Celebration. Pictured right-to-left are Shelley Miller, Michaela Havelkova, Andrea Rose and Karyn Stordahl. Not pictured is Catie Christensen.*

## Borton Named New Minnesota Basketball Coach

Pam Borton, formerly the associate head coach at Boston College, was named the new University of Minnesota women's basketball coach at a press conference on May 24. Borton becomes the seventh head coach in the 29-year history of Golden Gopher women's basketball.

"This winter, the women's basketball program was the pride of our state," said University President Mark Yudof. "I am confident that under Pam's leadership this program will continue to achieve great success, attract record crowds and inspire all Minnesotans."

"I believe the hiring of Pam Borton assures us that we will not miss a beat in resuming our pace in athletic achievement, academic accomplishment and community enthusiasm for Golden Gopher women's basketball," said Voelz.

"I'm very proud to be named the head coach at the University of Minnesota," said Borton. "I'm excited to join the Golden Gopher women's basketball family and am



*Above: Gopher player Lindsay Lieser, new head coach Pam Borton and director Chris Voelz pose for pictures at the May 24 press conference.*

looking forward to working with a talented group of student-athletes who has been embraced by the Minnesota basketball community. We expect to sustain the excitement of last year's season and reach toward loftier goals in the years to come."

Borton, 36, spent the last five years at Boston College, where she was promoted to associate head coach for the last two years. She served as the Eagles' recruiting coordinator and produced top 25 recruiting classes three times.

Borton helped the Eagles to a 102-51 record, including NCAA Tournament berths in 1999, 2000 and 2002. Boston College finished the 2001-02 season with a record of 23-8 overall and 12-4 (third) in the BIG EAST.

Borton joined the Boston College women's basketball staff as an assistant coach in June 1997, after serving as the head coach at the University of Vermont from 1993-97. In her four years as head coach at Vermont, she led the

Catamounts to a 69-46 (.667) record, a North Atlantic Conference championship, and an NCAA Tournament appearance in 1994.

Borton received her Master's degree in Sports Management from Bowling Green in 1988. A 1987 graduate of Defiance College in Ohio, Borton received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Physical Education. She was a four-year letterwinner on the basketball team, served as the team captain as a junior and senior, and was a third-team All-American both years.

## "Save Gopher Sports" Reaches First Milestone in Retaining Three Sports Teams

Save Gopher Sports, a committee of more than 60 business and community leaders, made a \$900,000 down payment on their campaign to stop the elimination of men's and women's golf and men's gymnastics at the University of Minnesota on May 16. University President Mark Yudof had previously announced that in order to allow the three teams to continue beyond June 30, 2003, \$900,000 must be raised by June 30, 2002 and an additional \$1.8 million must be

pledged by February 1, 2003. That money would be raised in the form of a pledge requiring \$900,000 to be paid June 30, 2003 and \$900,000 to be paid on June 30, 2004.

Co-chairs Harvey Mackay and Bob McNamara also announced that a total of \$1.34 million, or 49 percent, has been committed against the \$2.7 million goal. The committee will continue its fundraising effort and asked alumni, Gopher sports fans and the community to help raise the

remaining funds. People interested in donating are being asked to contact the committee through the website [savegophersports.com](http://savegophersports.com).

In addition, the co-chairs announced a plan is in the works with the University Foundation and others that will endow non-revenue sports programs at the University so the threat of eliminating sports does not occur in the future.

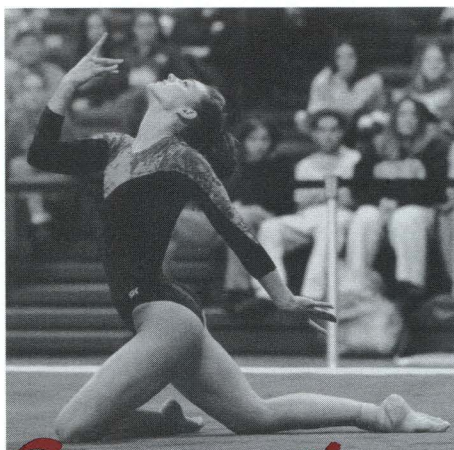
# Winter Sports Review

## Hockey



*Left: Junior Ronda Curtin received All-America status from the JOFA/American Hockey Coaches Assoc.*

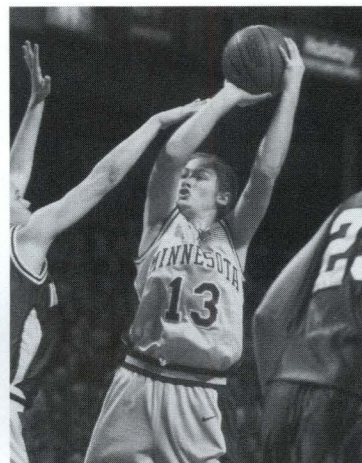
- » The Gophers finished the 2001-02 season with a third-place finish at the NCAA Frozen Four and were 28-4-6 overall, 19-2-3 in the WCHA.
- » Minnesota won the Western Collegiate Hockey Association-Women's League regular season and tournament titles.
- » Ronda Curtin was a JOCA First Team All-America selection as a defender and was one of three finalists for the Patty Kazmaier Memorial Award.
- » Head coach Laura Halldorson was named the American Hockey Coaches Assoc. Coach of the Year.



*Left: Sophomore Annie Laatsch achieved All-America honors at the 2002 NCAA Championships in the floor exercise.*

## Gymnastics

- » The Gopher gymnasts finished the season in ninth place at the NCAA Championships, the highest finish in school history.
- » Annie Laatsch and MaryAnne Kelley were the first gymnasts since 1997 to earn first-team All-America honors (floor exercise).
- » Gopher assistant coach Doug Day was named National Assistant Coach of the Year. Jim and Meg Stephenson were honored as Big Ten and Regional Coaches of the Year this season.

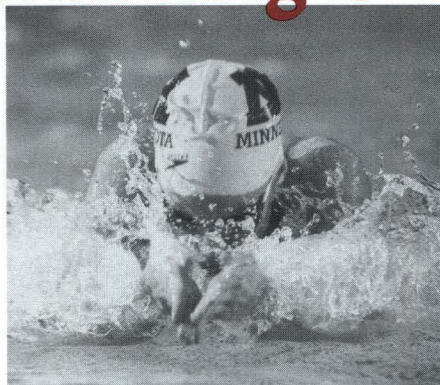


## Basketball

*Right: Sophomore Lindsay Whalen was the 2002 Big Ten Player of the Year.*

- » The Gophers finished the season ranked 18th in the nation and with an overall record of 21-5, 11-4 in the conference. Their season came to an end in the second round of the NCAA Tournament with a heartbreaking loss to North Carolina.
- » Minnesota broke their previous attendance record (set on Jan. 27) on Feb. 24, pulling in 12,124 fans to Williams Arena.
- » Sophomore Lindsay Whalen earned Big Ten Player of the Year and All-America honors. First year Janel McCarville earned Big Ten Freshman of the Year honors.

## Swimming & Diving



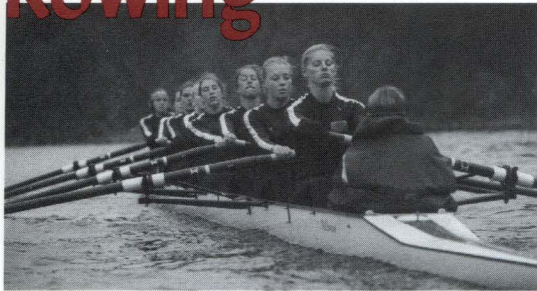
*Left: Junior Keri Hehn earned All-America honors in the 200 breaststroke at the 2002 NCAA Championships.*

- » The Gophers finished 32nd at the NCAA Championships and ninth at the Big Ten Championships.
- » Keri Hehn was first team All-America in the 200 breaststroke with an eighth place finish at the 2002 NCAA Championships.
- » Dana Baum was an All-American honorable mention in the 500 freestyle, finishing 15th at the 2002 NCAA Championships.
- » Newcomer Rebecca Cornthwaite finished 20th in springboard diving at the NCAA Championships.



## Track & Field

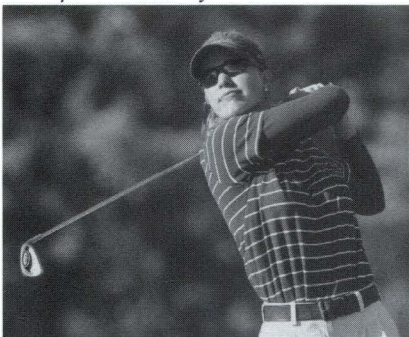
## Rowing



*Above: A varsity eight prepares for competition at last fall's Twin Cities All Comers Regatta.*

- « The Minnesota first Varsity Eight earned its first conference weekly award when it was named the Big Ten Boat of the Week.
- « The Gophers improved their showing at Big Ten Championships by finishing fifth in the first Varsity Eight Grand Finals.
- « Sophomore Melissa Roche earned first team All-Big Ten honors, while senior Erin Streff was named to the second team.

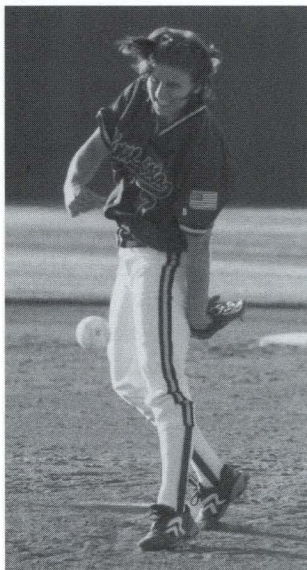
*Below: Golfer Karyn Stordahl led the Gophers in six of ten tournaments.*



## Golf

- » Minnesota finished the season with three top 5 finishes (Lady Razorback, Alabama Capstone, Duck Invitational)
- » Karyn Stordahl led the team with a stroke average of 78.17, 10th best in Minnesota history.
- » Tai Kinney posted a 78.28 stroke average, the best for a first-year Golden Gopher and 14th overall.

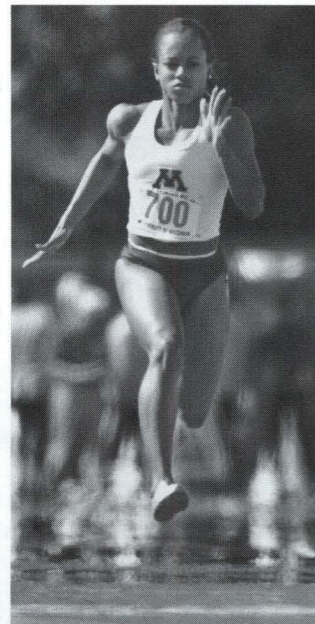
## Softball



*Right: Sophomore Piper Marten earned All-Big Ten honors.*

- « Minnesota made its sixth NCAA Tournament appearance and hosted an NCAA Regional for the first time in team history
- « With 35 wins this season, the Gophers have reached seven straight seasons with 30 or more wins
- « Piper Marten, Jordanne Nygren and Tammi Hays earned NFCA All-Region acclaim, and were all named to the NCAA Regional all-tournament team

- » The track and field team finished 45th with four points at the 2002 NCAA Outdoor Track and Field Championships.
- » Minnesota wrapped up its indoor season by tying for 27th place at the 2002 NCAA Indoor Track and Field Championships.
- » Tahesia Harrigan earned All-American honors at the NCAA Championships with a second place finish of 7.22 seconds in the 60-meter dash.
- » Tahesia Harrigan was awarded Big Ten Track and Field Freshman of the Year.



*Above: Sprinter Tahesia Harrigan earned All-America honors in both the indoor and outdoor NCAA Championship meets.*

## Tennis

*Below: Sophomore Valerie Vladea earned her second All-Big Ten honor in the 2002 season.*



- » The Gophers finished their season, 6-16 and 1-9 in the conference, battling with injuries throughout the season.
- » For the second year in a row, Valerie Vladea was named All-Big Ten.
- » Two Gopher tennis players were named to the Minnesota Women's Athletics Top Five Award — seniors Michaela Havelkova (3.96 GPA) and Andrea Rose (3.97 GPA).

# Women's Athletics News...

## Minnesota Hosts NCAA Softball Regional

The NCAA Region 2 Championship took place at the Jane Sage Cowles Stadium from Thursday-Sunday, May 16 - 19. Minnesota was one of eight institutions to host a 2002 NCAA Softball Regional Championship. Region 2 competition was composed of Arizona, Boston, DePaul, Minnesota, Penn State and Princeton. The four-day attendance nearly reached 2000 admissions.

Minnesota entered the tournament as the No. 3 seed and opened play against No. 4 Princeton. The Gophers defeated the Tigers 2-1 but were eliminated by No. 2 seed DePaul in a 5-3 loss.

DePaul faced the No. 1 seed and defending national champion Arizona. Arizona routed the Blue Demons 8-0 to advance to the Women's College World Series



*Above: Gopher softball players congratulate Jordanne Nygren (14) after her home run against Princeton on May 16.*

*Right: Goldy Gopher pals around with softball fans in the stands during the four-day tournament.*



where they lost in the championship game to California 6-0.

## Student-Athletes Earn Academic All-Big Ten Honors

The Big Ten Conference recognized a total of 384 winter and 794 spring and at-large student-athletes who were named to the Academic All-Conference Team. Of the winter and spring numbers, 47 were Minnesota female student-athletes. To be eligible for an Academic All-Big Ten selection, nominees must be a letterwinner in at least their second academic year at the institution and carry a career grade-point average (GPA) of 3.0 or better.

Basketball student-athlete Lindsay Whalen also received GTE/Co-SIDA Academic All-District honors.

Academic All-Big Ten honorees:

**Basketball** — Kadidja Andersson, Lindsay Lieser, Corrin Von Wald, Lindsay Whalen

**Golf** — Cindy Cannon, Karen Quintelier, Karyn Stordahl

**Gymnastics** — Jenny Alf, Megan Beuckens, Leigh Dixon, Carrie Hortsch, Alicia Opsahl, Mary Skokut

**Hockey** — Gwen Anderson, Kelsey Bills, Melissa Coulombe, Ronda Curtin, Tracy Engstrom, Cecilia Retelle, Laura Slominski

**Rowing** — Anna Bartels, Elyse Christenson, Lauren Frana, Katie Frankson, Jackie Gagner, Mariel Gartner, Sarah Gleason, Beth Hornby, Shelley Miller, Katie Nelson, Nina Palmer, Holly Pearson, Jill Peters, Amber Riopel, Melissa Roche, Libby Sharrow

**Softball** — Allie Fisk, Christine Lindberg, Angie Recknor, Anne Thul

**Swimming & Diving** — Kim Bahmer, Dana Baum, Sarah Bohlsen, Jessica Crawford, Carol Crouthamel, Karen Egerman, Ari Gardner, Lauren Guzauskas, Holly Hanneman, Shannon Jackson, Anne Koller, Shauna Riggs, Juleen Rodakowski, Kristin Rygg

**Tennis** — Michaela Havelkova, Jennifer Howard, Andrea Rose, Brandi Watts

**Track & Field** — Allyson DeVries, Erica Findlay, Alean Frawley, Linda Lindqvist, Shani Marks, Anita Menden, Victoria Moses, Jenny Moylan, Amy Sas, Rachel Shutz, Barbora Spotakova, Monica Stearns, Darja Vasiljeva, Saree Zweifel

# Women's Athletics News...

## Golden Gopher Women Record 29th Consecutive Term with 3.0 Cumulative GPA

For the 29th consecutive term, the University of Minnesota women student-athletes compiled a cumulative grade point average at or above 3.00.

The cumulative GPA for spring semester 2002 was 3.13. The last time the department's GPA was under 3.0 was at the conclusion of fall quarter, 1991. Of the nearly 300 student-athletes in Women's Athletics, 67 percent recorded a GPA at or above 3.0 for the spring semester, with 13 (four percent) recording perfect 4.0 GPAs for the semester.

"What an accomplishment to

have kept the string of academic terms at or above a 3.0 GPA for 29 complete academic terms," said Women's Athletics director Chris Voelz. "This illustrates the commitment and tenacity of our student-athletes, academic counselors and coaches to strive for excellence in both athletic and academic areas. Thanks to all who contributed to this success."

Of the department's 12 sports, 7 had cumulative GPAs at or above 3.00, with no team averaging below 2.83. Again this semester, the tennis team posted the highest department GPA at 3.45.

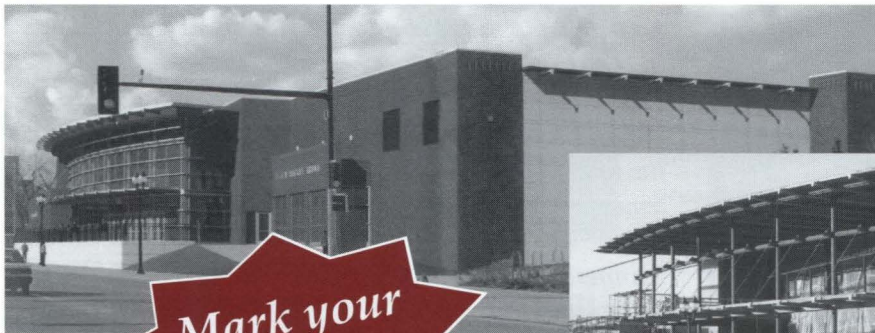
## T'Was a Grand Old Day

The Grand Old Day parade on June 2 featured Gopher student-athletes serving as this year's parade Grand Marshals. The parade stretched for 2.5 miles on Grand Avenue in St. Paul. The one-day event drew more than 250,000 people and is the largest one-day festival in the Midwest.

Representing the Gophers were gymnasts Carrie Hortsch and Carolyn Yernberg, volleyball players Trisha Bratford and Bethany Brafford, and hockey players Ronda Curtin and Winny Brodt. Football players Jermiah Carter, Phil Archer, and Thomas Tapeh joined them. The student-athletes led the parade by cruising along the route in nine classic MGs.

## RIDDER ARENA

opening October 19, 2002



Mark your  
calendar!



Far left: Graphic composite of the hockey-tennis facility.

Left and above: The Ridder Arena and Tennis Facility construction progress as of December, 2001.

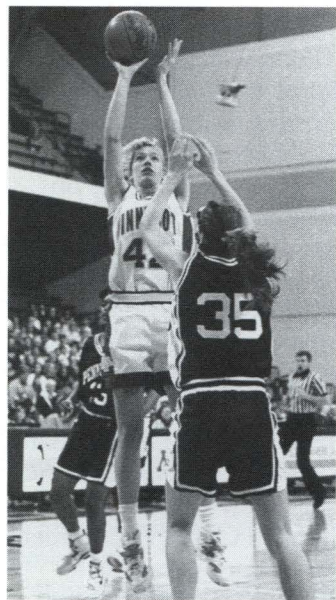
## — Rinkside at Ridder —

*The Ridder Arena will be the first facility in the nation constructed exclusively for women's hockey! Don't miss this chance to lead the charge in supporting women's hockey!*

*To form a partnership with this new facility and excellent hockey program, please contact Natasha Freimark at 612-624-6336 or Wes Sweetser at 612-624-1655.*

Mark your calendar for the opening of the brand new Ridder Arena, Saturday, October 19, 2002. Tickets are \$110 and include a VIP reception and a ticket to the game plus all of the day's activities. The festivities will get under way at 2:00 p.m. with recognition of the Ridder family, food, music, a silent auction and more. Topping off the event, the Gopher Women's Hockey team will play its first game in Ridder Arena. At 4:05 p.m. the puck will drop as the Gophers take on the Huskies of St. Cloud State. For more information or tickets call 612-624-8080.

# 27 Years of Women's Athletics...

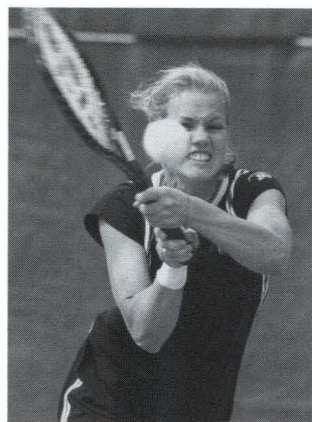


< 1994 — Gopher basketball player Carol Ann Shudlick won the Wade Trophy, an award given to the nation's top women's basketball player, while leading the team to its first-ever NCAA Tournament appearance.

> 1989 — Minnesota golfer Kate Hughes won the Big Ten title for the second consecutive year and was honored as the Conference Player of the Year.



< 2000 — Minnesota Cross Country won its first-ever team title at the prestigious Roy Griak Invitational.



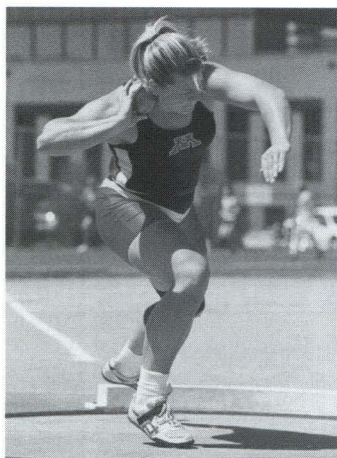
^ 2000 — Gopher tennis player Nora Sauska broke the school record for singles victories with 93 career wins.



< 1981 — Diver Chris Curry won the national title in the 3-meter event. In 1977, she was the first female to receive a Minnesota athletic scholarship.



^ 1990 — The Aquatic Center opens, largely funded by benefactor Dorothy Sheppard for whom the pool is named. She is pictured at the pool dedication with swimming head coach Jean Freeman (left) and Athletics Director Chris Voelz (right).



< 2001 — Gopher thrower Aubrey Schmitt was a five-time Big Ten champion, a four-time All-American and the 2001 Big Ten Medal of Honor winner.

> 1989 — The gymnastics team won its second straight Big Ten title. Minnesota gymnasts placed first in every event at the conference championship.

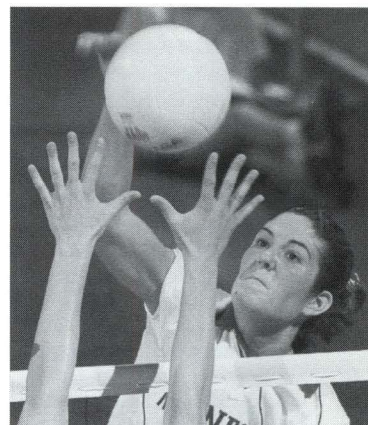


# 27 Years of Women's Athletics...

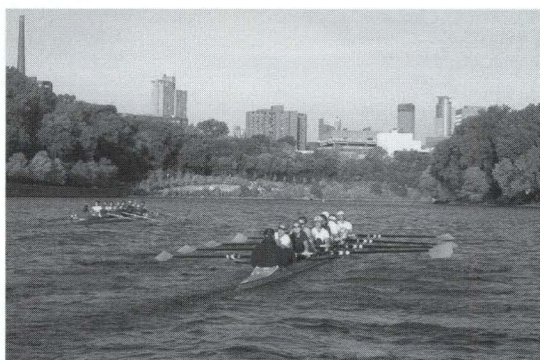


^ 2000 — The hockey team won the national title at the ACHA Championship, becoming Minnesota's first team national champion. Goalie Erica Killewald was named the MVP of the ACHA Championship tournament.

> 2000 — Nicole Branagh broke the Big Ten record for career kills, ending her collegiate career with 2,379. She led the Gophers to the Sweet Sixteen her senior year when the team finished the season with a #11 national ranking.



< 2000 — Minnesota's rowing team competed in its first race as a varsity program, the 12th women's sport at the University.



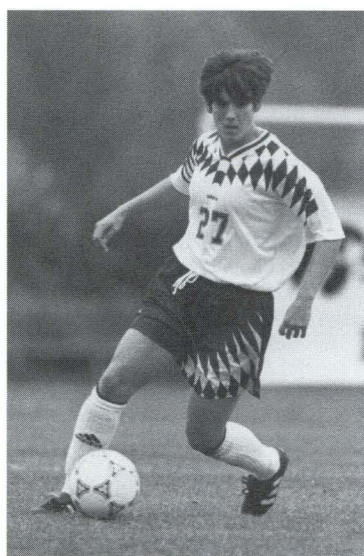
> 1997 — Gopher swimmer Gretchen Hegener won the 100 breaststroke race at the NCAA Championship, setting an American record in the event.



> 1999 — Women's Athletics hosted Texas Tuxedo, an event that raised \$230,000 for the Berg Fund and drew many well-known personalities.



< 1993 — The Gopher soccer team played its first game as a varsity program at the University of Minnesota. The Gophers won their first Big Ten title in just their third season, 1995. Pictured at right is Jennifer McElmury (1994-97), a three-time All-American and two-time Big Ten Player of the Year.



> 1986 — The softball team earned Minnesota's first official Big Ten championship after compiling a 15-9 record. Gopher pitcher Barb Drake was named Big Ten Player of the Year, and second-team All-America.



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Contact Wes Sweetser, Marketing Manager, at 612-624-1655 with your questions or for sponsorship opportunities.

### Minnesota State Fair

Mark your calendars now!  
The great Minnesota get-together  
takes place August 22- September 2, 2002.

Don't miss any of our great  
Gopher sports at the fair. Be on  
the lookout for upcoming dates  
and times to see your favorite  
student-athletes and coaches at  
the fair.

\*Our sincere appreciation to all of our donors and corporate partners. This list includes gifts made from July 1, 2000 to June 30, 2001. If you are not included on the list, it was done so inadvertently, and we'd like to hear from you.

# Marketing & Promotions

## Minnesota Athletics Hosts Goldy's Round Up

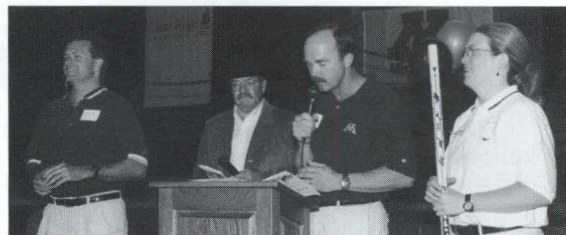
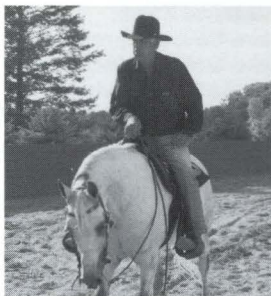
University of Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletics and Ames Construction owner, Dick Ames, co-hosted Goldy's Round Up, on June 5 at the Cedar Ridge Arabian Farms in Jordan, Minn.

Goldy's Round Up included a live and silent auction, hay rides, a cookout dinner, as well as a chance to meet the University of Minnesota head coaches. The proceeds benefit the men's and women's athletic scholarship funds.

*Right: Ames Construction owner and host Dick Ames rides his steed during the horse show early in the evening.*

*Right: Senior associate athletics director Regina Sullivan, head swimming and diving coach Jean Freeman and head basketball coach Pam Borton enjoy a hay ride.*

*Lower right: Men's and women's hockey head coaches Don Lucia and Laura Halldorson intice bidders with season ticket packages during the live auction.*



*Above: Lawson Software representative Winston Hewett and Athletics Director Chris Voelz pose with the Ms. Gopher Golf sponsors sign.*

*Right: Ms. Gopher Golf committee members Deborah Olson and Marilyn Doyle announce awards during the luncheon.*

## Lawson Ms. Gopher Golf

Celebrating its 21st year, the Lawson Ms. Gopher Golf Benefit was another great success, grossing over \$55,000. On Monday, June 3, at the beautiful Les Bolstad Golf Course, this year's event brought in a great field of women's athletics donors, sponsors and friends. The day was filled with many activities to keep participants busy including: a silent auction, raffle, maroon and gold scrambles, breakfast and lunch, and Gopher student-athletes and coaches.



## The Gold Country Run/Walk and Gopher Fan Fest

On Saturday, June 1, Gold Country Run and Gopher Fan Fest participants enjoyed gorgeous weather and a fun-filled day of activities. The day began with the 7th annual running of the Gold Country 5K Walk/Run through the beautiful East Bank of the Minneapolis campus. Over 1,500 racers took part in the race. Following the run was Goldy's Gallop for kids, games, food, music and autographs from Gopher student-athletes and coaches. The event grossed over \$30,000 with proceeds benefitting intercollegiate athletics.



*Above: Runners surge forward at the start of the 5K Gold Country Run on June 1.*

## Voelz Bids Women's Athletics a Fond Farewell

On Thursday, May 30, a reception was held in honor of outgoing Athletics Director Chris Voelz to celebrate the accomplishments of her 14-year tenure at the University and wish her good luck in the future. The event was held at the McNamara Alumni Center and attended by about 150 of Voelz' friends, fans, family and associates. The event also raised money for the Chris Voelz Endowment Scholarship which goes to a female student-athlete "in good academic standing who exhibits leadership, enthusiasm, commitment and passion for their opportunities as a student-athlete." Her last day with the department is July 15. She will be known in the future as "Athletics Director Emerita"!



*Above: Outgoing Athletics Director Chris Voelz smiles at the crowd assembled in her honor on May 30.*



*Above: Chris Voelz greets her father, Earl Voelz. Chris' family and friends traveled from across the country to attend the event.*



*Above: Benefactors and former Advisory Council Chairs Kathleen Ridder, Linda Mona and Peggy Lucas applaud Chris at the reception.*

*Right: Co-head gymnastics coach Meg Stephenson and Chris Voelz share a moment of appreciation.*



*Above: Senior Associate Athletics Director Regina Sullivan congratulates Athletics Director Chris Voelz. Chris holds an over-sized lifetime pass for women's athletics events and a plaque engraved with the department's mission statement.*

# From the Director's Chair — Chris Voelz

The following was Director Voelz' response to the University's announcement on April 11 of its plan to lessen the deficit within Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletics (see story on page 1).

This is the end of an era and the beginning of a new era! I came here 14 years ago with great hopes and dreams of what could be accomplished and I leave the Athletics Director position with great satisfaction and an abundance of hope! I dreamed of making a difference for girls and women, and Minnesota gave me an opportunity to contribute. I will be forever grateful that Minnesota provided me such fertile grounds for my lifework.

As of June 16, 2002, I will become a Special Consultant to the President and Athletics Director Emerita. After having spent 10 years in a merged department at the University of Oregon and the last 14 in a separate one, I hope I can be helpful in this transition.

President Yudof knows how much I valued separate departments, and the kinds of dedicated attention we could show our

women, the kind of coaches we could attract, and the incredible outcomes we have achieved through this structure. He knows that I believe we have the very best supporters that any institution could ever hope to have- because of their commitment, their generosity,



*Above: Athletics Director Chris Voelz applauds the accomplishments of the student-athletes, coaches, staff, donors and community at the 2002 Berg Banquet.*

and their values. I respectfully disagree with the President on both the structure change and the dropping of sports.

Given the changes that are ahead, and for obvious reasons I may not have been the best person

to steward this change. I know what I'm made of and it is time for me to go! President Yudof and the administration have assured me that they remain committed to gender equity and high academic standards and that they will take great measure to assure that the women are taken care of.

I am proud of our progress- the experiences we offered to the female student athletes - the academic achievement, the athletic accomplishments and their opportunities for leadership, the way in which we managed our affairs with great integrity, the community support raised to unprecedented levels and the facilities that will be here to support the next generation of student-athletes.

And to the student-athletes, the coaches, staff and the people of Minnesota, thank you for allowing me to be your Women's Athletics Director- it was a privilege.

*Go gophs!*

*my best,  
Chris Voelz*



Women's Athletics  
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

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