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# SPORTSNEWS

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## Surprise!

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Tickets! Page 4

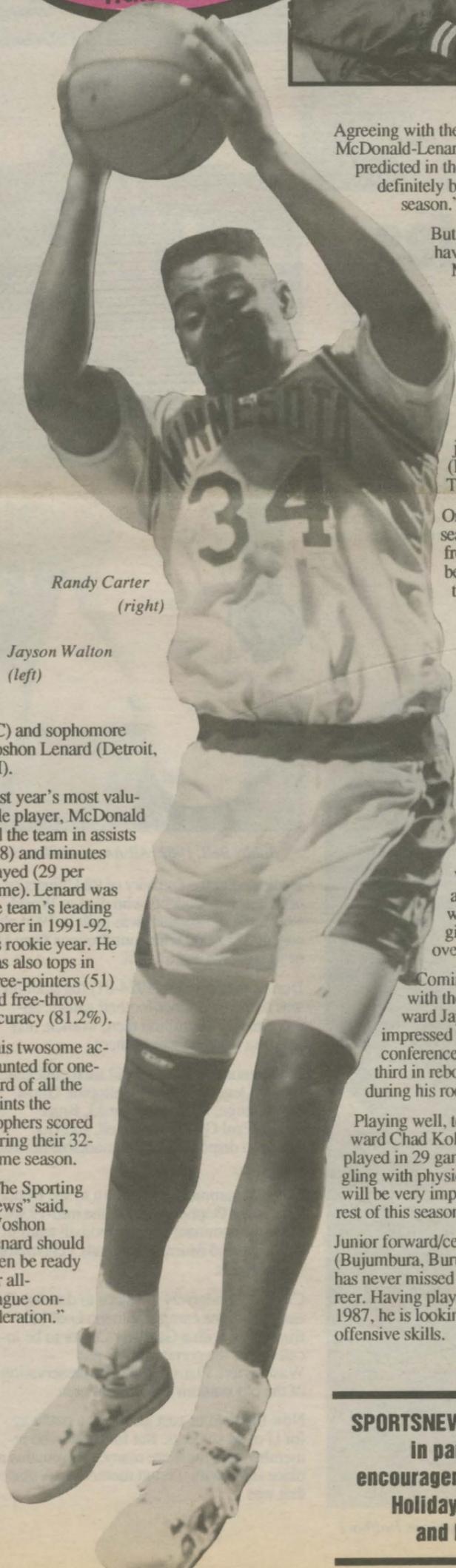


By Jim Mulrooney



Randy Carter  
(right)

Jayson Walton  
(left)



Agreeing with the positive assessments of the McDonald-Lenard tandem, Coach Haskins predicted in the fall that "backcourt will definitely be a strength for us this season."

But both these talented guards have been struck with injuries. McDonald had surgery on December 24 for a stress fracture in his left foot. Lenard suffered a groin strain.

The Gophers' backcourt bench strength was evident as their starters recovered. Helping carry the load were junior Townsend Orr (Dolton, IL) and senior Nate Tubbs (Fort Wayne, IN).

Orr played in all 32 games last season, shooting 37% (24-65) from 3-point range. Tubbs has been a defensive standout throughout his career. He's a versatile talent who can also play small forward.

Senior forward Dana Jackson (Chicago, IL) improved his field goal percentage to .630 (29-47) during the first nine games this season. He was the team's last-second hero several times in 1991-92. He rebounded a missed shot and scored the game-winner with 4 seconds left in a 49-48 victory over Wisconsin at Madison. He also converted a free-throw with no time remaining to give the Gophers a 54-53 win over Illinois at Williams Arena.

Coming off his inaugural year with the Gophers, sophomore forward Jayson Walton (Dallas, TX) impressed people with his 14.2 non-conference scoring average. He ranked third in rebounding and fifth in scoring during his rookie season.

Playing well, too, has been sophomore forward Chad Kolander (Owatonna, MN) who played in 29 games last year while struggling with physical ills. His strength inside will be very important to the Gophers the rest of this season.

Junior forward/center Ernest Nzigamasabo (Bujumbura, Burundi), the team's co-captain, has never missed a game in his Gopher career. Having played basketball only since 1987, he is looking to continue enhancing his offensive skills.

### What can happen next?

The story of University of Minnesota (U of M) men's basketball 1992-93 keeps getting rewritten. There constantly are new themes. Unfortunately, many of them have been depressing.

It's been a fitful season so far. Step forward, fall back. Injury after sickening injury.

In his 13-year coaching career, Clem Haskins claims he's never had a team so plagued with physical problems.

And what a year to be hurting. In the delirious world of college basketball, the Big Ten has the most nationally-ranked teams of any conference in the country.

What were the bucket experts saying last fall about the U of M's chances in the Big Ten this year?

The 1992-93 College Basketball Yearbook put out by "The Sporting News," said: "This could be a very, very good team... The Gophers might be the deepest team in the league with one of the better home-court advantages. If you're looking for a surprise team, Minnesota could qualify."

The Gophers lost only one player (center Bob Martin) from last season's team, and they have some new additions.

Entering this year, they had two major concerns. One was the right ankle of their gifted star forward, co-captain Randy Carter (Memphis, TN). The other was his left ankle. Carter underwent surgery a year ago to have bone spurs removed from both ankles.

A hard-nosed scrapper under the basket, Carter led the team in rebounding the past two seasons. Without a doubt, he's an irreplaceable cog in the Gophers' cage machine. Before the first tip-off last November, the hopes of the U of M basketball team seemed to hinge on the recuperative abilities of this wounded warrior.

By January the Carter question was answered. In spite of suffering a separated shoulder and sprained ankle early this season, Carter performed well, averaging 14 points and displaying his rebounding strength.

But, as important as Carter is, he's not the whole team.

Looking toward this season, everyone was pointing to the Gophers' exceptional backcourt duo, junior Arriel McDonald (Raleigh,

NC) and sophomore Voshon Lenard (Detroit, MI).

Last year's most valuable player, McDonald led the team in assists (3.8) and minutes played (29 per game). Lenard was the team's leading scorer in 1991-92, his rookie year. He was also tops in three-pointers (51) and free-throw accuracy (81.2%).

This twosome accounted for one-third of all the points the Gophers scored during their 32-game season.

"The Sporting News" said, "Voshon Lenard should even be ready for all-league consideration."

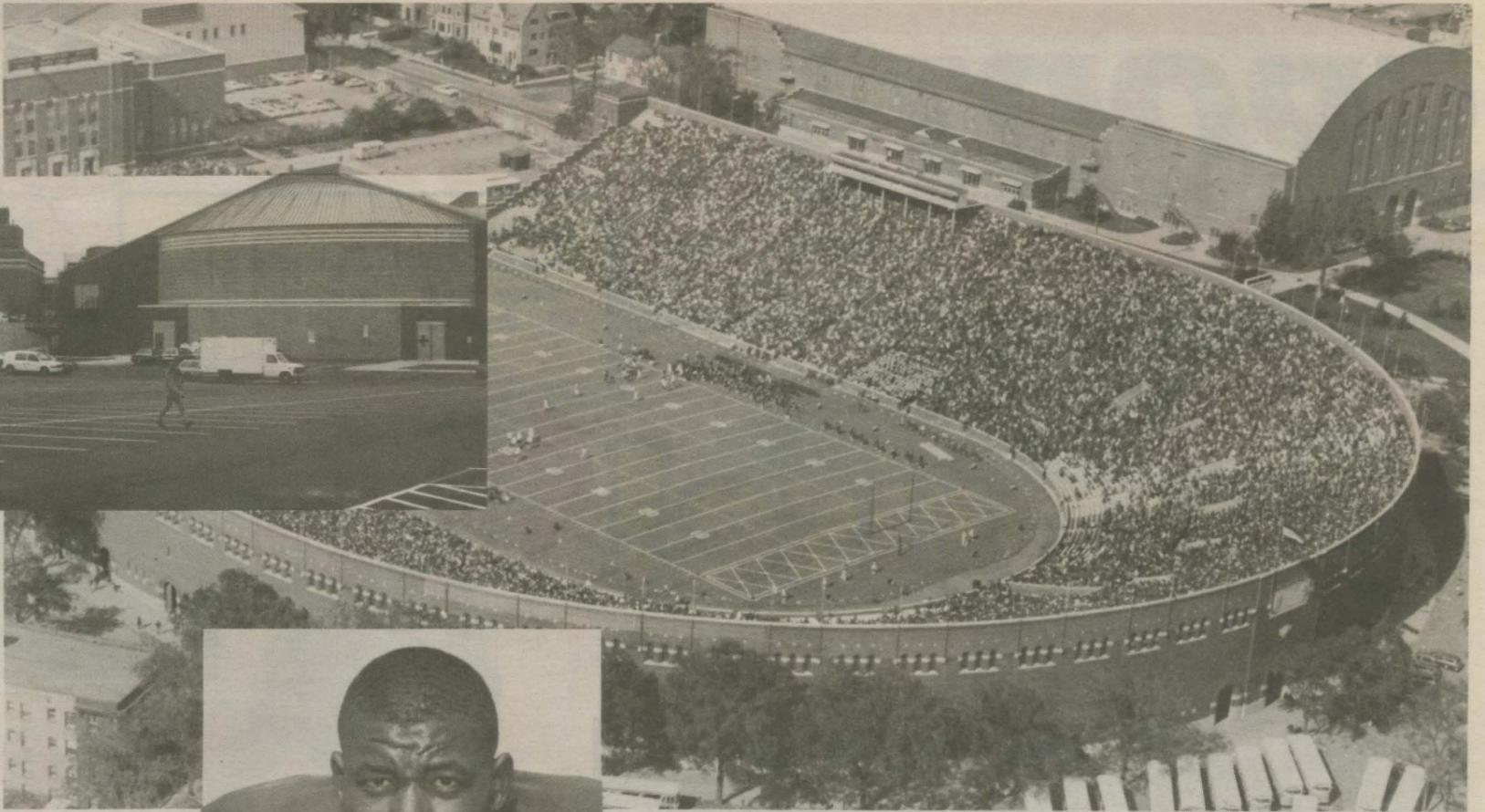
Continued on page 4

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Right: Old Memorial Stadium, home to Gopher football (1924-1981)



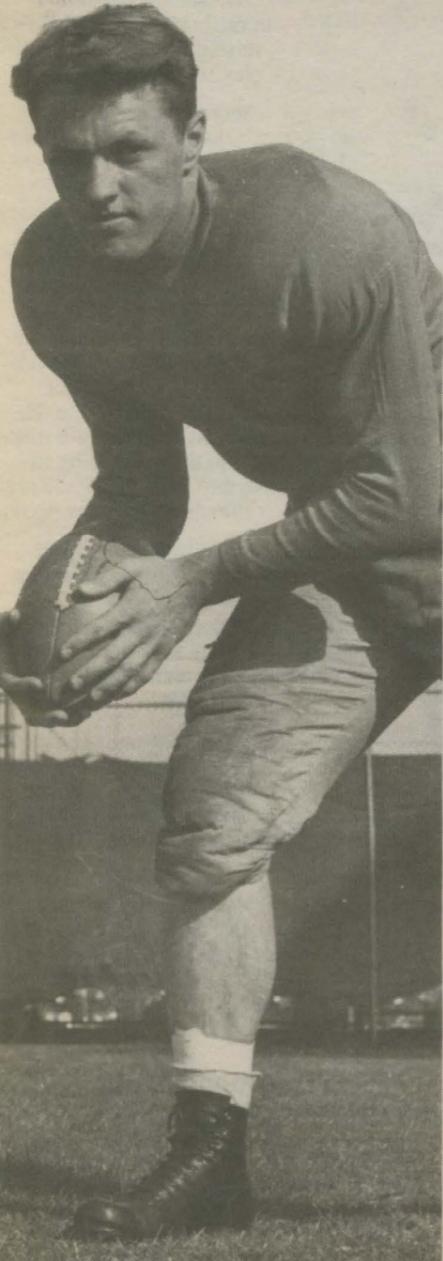
Above: Student walks across parking lot which formerly was Memorial Stadium football field.



## Memories

It's hard to believe. Stand on Oak Street between Washington and University Avenues looking west. You see the two-year old Aquatic Center, part of the new Recreation Center, the Radisson Hotel, and, in the distance, the skyline of downtown Minneapolis.

When you scan the mostly-empty, black-topped space, it's difficult to think that here there once was a football field surrounded by a huge brick structure with 60,000 seats. That for many years thousands came together at this site to cheer for Gopher football teams. This was the place where Memorial Stadium stood. Imposing. Massive.



Bruce Smith, 1941, All-American Halfback



Bobby Bell, 1962, All-American Tackle

Dedicated to the memory of 98 University of Minnesota students who died in World War I, the old stadium was built in 1924 at a cost of \$572,000 with contributions from U of M students and alumni.

During the 68 years (1924-81) the stadium was home to Gopher football games, approximately 14 million men, women, and children watched games there.

On Memorial Stadium field such collegiate football legends as the "Galloping Ghost" Red Grange, Bronko Nagurski, Bruce Smith, Paul Giel, Bobby Bell, and O.J. Simpson displayed their remarkable athletic skills.

Crowds crammed the stadium to see Bernie Bierman's Gopher teams in the mid-1930s, the most dominant college football team in America, and Murray Warmath's champions of the 1960s.

Currently underway are steps to develop the east end of the campus into the U of M's front door, with a Gateway Center to be located near the corner of Oak and Washington. Plans call for the preservation of the old stadium's memorial arch.

Now the field of past glories is a pathway for U of M students. But for those who remember, and there are many, this remains a place filled with vibrant memories. A place that was.

## Letters



### HOCKEY HURRAH

Good work reflecting the qualities of our Gopher hockey team ("Goal-Bound" in the December, 1992 SPORTSNEWS) and the challenges which lie ahead this season. It's always exciting and enjoyable to attend U of M hockey games...if you can find a ticket.

George King  
Minneapolis

### DISTANCE STAR

Congratulations to senior Doug Milkowski, the Gophers' most successful cross country runner this year. We wish him well in the upcoming track & field season.

John Weber  
Fridley

### BAND SALUTE

As a mother of four children, I want to commend the University of Minnesota marching band. The spirit generated by the band contributes a lot to making Gopher sporting events so fun, especially for younger fans.

Ruth Sawyer  
Wayzata

### HOME-GROWN RECRUITS

I liked what Jim Byrne said in his column ("Calling the Turn with Jimmy Byrne") about searching for local student-athletes. I've got all my fingers crossed that the superstar running back from Cretin-Derham Hall will end up with our Minnesota football team.

Christopher Ray  
St. Paul

### SELLING TICKETS

I'm very pleased with Dr. Boston's stated objective to focus attention on the whole ticket

sales process, particularly as it concerns Gopher football.

Walter Seeger  
Minneapolis

### To Whom It May Concern:

The answer to the Who Am I? Contest--

He is and was when I, as his teacher and high school hockey coach, a class act!--Doug Peltier

Lou Cotroneo  
St. Paul

*Ed. note: Lou Cotroneo was one of more than two dozen readers who correctly identified Doug Peltier (See page 4). Unfortunately Cotroneo's name was not picked from the hat as the winner. Try again Louie!*

*Incidentally, Cotroneo, in case you may have forgotten, is one of the greatest high school hockey coaches this state ever had. He coached at St. Paul Johnson High School.*

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## Where Are They Now? Vince Fuller: Meeting the Challenge



By Len Levine & Jim Mulrooney

scholarship. His excellent academic record during his first two years qualified him to receive a Williams Scholarship.

"I wouldn't be where I am today without that scholarship," Fuller remarks. "It changed my life forever."

Fuller's first assignment when he joined Cal Stoll's 1972 Gopher football team was to play on the scout team against the varsity which was tuning-up for its game with powerful Nebraska. Because of his speed, Fuller was directed to play the role of the Cornhusker's brilliant running back and future Heisman Trophy winner, Johnny Rogers. He even wore Rogers' number.

Fuller had so much success running against the Gophers' starting defensive line that Stoll decided to use him as a kick returner against Nebraska. "I had lots of opportunities to return kicks that day," Fuller remembers.

During his outstanding collegiate career, Fuller lettered four times in football and twice in track.

"My experience as a student-athlete at the University of Minnesota taught me that you

don't always get what you want," Fuller comments. "It helped me learn to live with the ups and downs of life. Sometimes it was humbling, but always it built character."

Just as in grammar school, Fuller met some people who took a special interest in him. Walter and Marilyn Goodwin were working on their doctorate degrees at the U of M when they extended their hands of help to Fuller.

"Once in a while, you need someone to tell you that you don't walk on water," comments Fuller. "The Goodwins were the biggest in-

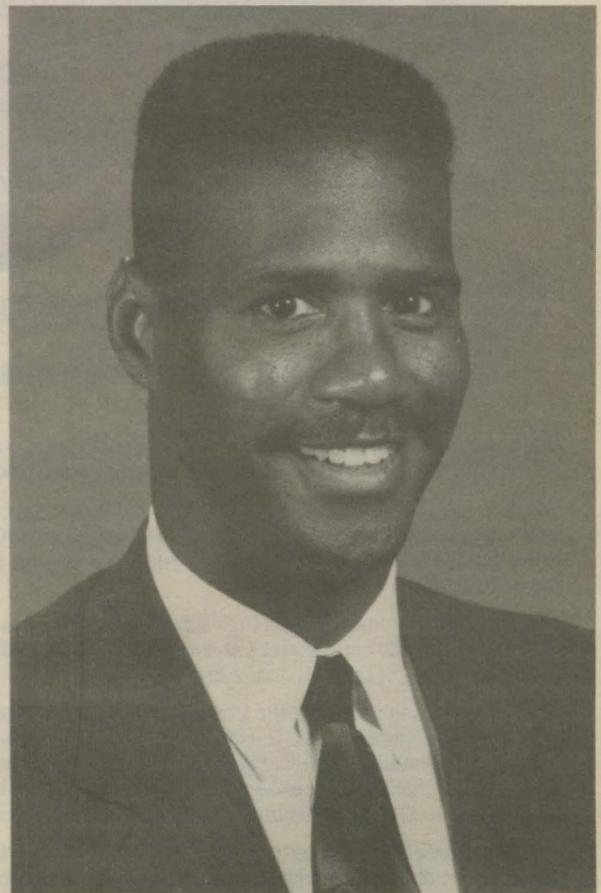
fluence in my college years, and we still remain the best of friends."

In his senior year Fuller injured his back making a tackle in the Northwestern game. He played in pain for several weeks but finally could no longer continue. A physician diagnosed the injury as a hair-line fracture.

Suddenly, the athletic part of Fuller's life ended. "There was a void," he recalls. "It meant I had to concentrate on academics. I had no excuse for not getting good grades."

Fuller earned his Bachelor of Arts degree with a major in Afro-American Studies. He later received a Master's degree in planning administration from the U of M's

Hubert H. Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs.



Vince Fuller, 1993

since then. Now I'll have the opportunity to really give something back to the school."

Under Fuller's leadership, the Williams Fund has had its most successful years, raising more than \$1 million the past two years.

"I have had lots of support in my work," Fuller points out. "My staff is super and because of their flexibility and talent, I have been able to focus on working more closely with members of the community."

Fuller has emphasized a hands-on approach to fund raising. "I believe it's important to talk about the program, tell people what you need, and thank everyone for their help."

He has patterned his development program after the very successful Clemson model, giving as many people as possible the chance to become a part of U of M men's athletics. During Fuller's tenure, the Minnesota Club has expanded its membership to more than 2,500, including both large and small donors.

"Many more individuals have had the opportunity to take ownership of our athletic program," he adds, "and take pride in its remarkable overall success."

Fuller and his wife Brenda have two sons, Michael-Vincent, nine, and Jordan, four months. They live in Minneapolis.

"Dr. McKinley Boston looks at the community and the Department of Men's Athletics as one," Fuller says. "He sees it as essential that the two work in concert for their mutual benefit. It's fun being a part of that."

As of the first of the year, Dr. Boston gave Fuller additional responsibilities, including the coordination of marketing, promotions, and ticket sales for Men's Athletics at the University of Minnesota.

Just a new challenge for Sister Vincent's self-assured former pupil.



Vince Fuller, 1975

After leaving the University, Fuller worked as an assistant market manager at HiTech Information System, an account representative at Raytheon Data System, and a systems representative at Lanier Business Systems. In 1984-85 he was a computer consultant at the University of Minnesota Foundation.

Fuller then served five years as a market research specialist, product specialist, and contract manager at Honeywell, Inc. He was the principal liaison for contract related communication between the company and the customer.

"My professional work experience was challenging and enjoyable," Fuller notes. "I was given the chance to utilize the skills I had developed as a student-athlete at the U of M."

In 1990 Fuller was appointed Director of the U of M's Williams Fund. On accepting the position, Fuller said, "I made a commitment to the University of Minnesota 18 years ago and that commitment has continued to grow

Len Levine earned three varsity letters as a member of the Gopher track team and established several records, one of which (the 60-yard dash) stood for 17 years. He was the silver medal winner in the 1960 Big Ten 300-yard dash championship. Levine was President of the "M" Club in 1989.

Jim Mulrooney is Managing Editor of SPORTSNEWS.

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## And What Part Did I Play In The Golden Gopher Tradition?

I was born and raised on the East Side of St. Paul. My parents were hard working people with eighth grade educations. Their first language was Swedish.

I began to skate when I was eight-years-old and never played on inside ice until I got to Johnson High School. I began playing hockey for Johnson High when I was a junior. We won the City Championship that year and the next.

I was 16-years-old when I was a high school senior and was second in scoring in the conference. I also was named to the All-Conference Team in both my junior and senior years.

In 1951 I was a sophomore at the University of Minnesota and played for John Mariucci. We finished the season with a 13-13 record. The following season we won the WCHA Conference title and went to the NCAA finals where we lost to Michigan. The next year we again won the WCHA and again went to the NCAA, this time losing in the final game in sudden death.

I played on three consecutive U.S. world hockey teams, including the U.S. Olympic team that won the silver medal in Cortina, Italy. In 1957 I competed for the United States in a game held in Europe against the Swedish National team. We beat the Swedes who went on to win the world championship.

I was 25-years-old and in my second year of law school at the University when I was elected to the Minnesota House of Representatives. Two years later I was elected to the Minnesota Senate. In 1970 I was elected Governor of Minnesota and became a United States Senator in 1976.

Today I practice law in Minneapolis and am a member of the University of Minnesota Board of Regents. WHO AM I?

Send answers to:

**SPORTSNEWS "TRADITION," 386 N. Wabasha St., St. Paul, MN 55102**

One correct answer will be selected from among all those sent to SPORTSNEWS. The winner will receive a maroon colored, 100 % nylon satin award jacket with white and gold lettering, 100 % polyester tricot flannel lining, full snap front, slash pockets and rib knit collar, cuffs and bottom band. This Chalk Line jacket has a \$70.00 value and is being donated by HOLIDAY PLUS. In addition, the winner will also receive two tickets to an upcoming Gopher basketball game. All entrants should include their name, address and jacket size (choose from S to XXL).

### Craig Anderson of Chaska, MN is a "Who am I?" winner!

I was born and raised on the East Side of St. Paul. My friends and I began our hockey careers in the neighborhood Pee Wee program where I followed in the footsteps of my two older brothers, Ron and Skip.

I played hockey under Coach Lou Controneo at St. Paul Johnson High School where I graduated in 1968. My boyhood idols in hockey were kids from my neighborhood such as Herb and Dave Brooks, Wendy Anderson, Craig Falkman, Ralph Venais and Gary Schmalzbauer.

I always dreamed that one day I would play hockey for the Minnesota Gophers and I fulfilled my dream as a member of the Gopher varsity team from 1969-1972, earning three letters.

My Gopher teams won the WCHA title and the NCAA playoff (losing in the final game for the National Championship). My senior year I was the team's leading scorer with 22 goals and 14 assists.

As I look back on my Gopher playing days, I'll always remember the game against Wisconsin my senior year. We were trailing by a score of 5-0 with just six minutes remaining when I scored two quick goals. My teammates scored another six consecutive goals and we won the game, 8-5.

In 1972 I began a career of teaching and coaching at the high school level. For the past six years, I've been the full-time athletic director at Forest Lake High School.

### Bob Veldman of Minneapolis is a "Who am I?" winner!

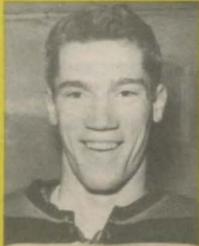
I was born in Jackson, Mississippi and moved to Toledo, Ohio when I was six years old. I competed in football, baseball and track for Libbey High School and my shot put toss of 53' 3/4" still stands as a school record.

I was heavily recruited by football coaches from across the country but chose Minnesota because "black athletes were treated fairly, with respect and there were no racial problems evident in the community and coaching staff."

I had a great experience playing football for the University of Minnesota. As a junior I played defensive end where I finished second in tackles in the Big Ten Conference, ahead of the great All-American Bubba Smith of Michigan State.

As a senior, I made several All-American teams. After my eligibility was over, I played in the NFL for the Baltimore Colts and Los Angeles Rams.

In 1974 I entered the University of Maryland Dental School and today I practice dentistry on the north side of Minneapolis.



1952 Photo



Doug Peltier



John Williams



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## SURPRISE! from page 1

Among new players joining the Gophers this year are sophomore forward/center David Washington (Albion, MI) and freshman forward Kevin Baker (Toledo, OH).

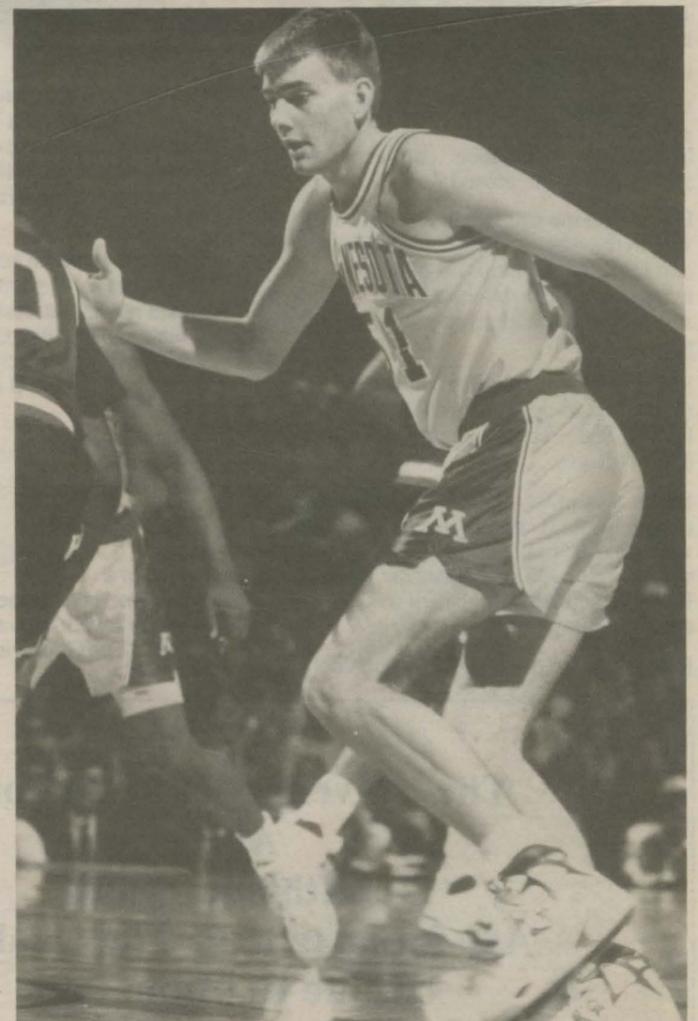
Washington played in all 34 games for Hutchinson (KA) Junior College last year. He earned all-state honors while playing high school basketball in Michigan and has outstanding speed and leaping ability for a big man (6'10").

"David has really played some quality minutes for us, and he obviously has some tools," Haskins commented. "He's essentially a year ahead of schedule."

Baker (Toledo, OH) was honored as the Toledo City League Player of the Year last season when he averaged 22 points and 8.2 rebounds. He was a NIKE and USA Today honorable mention All-America choice.

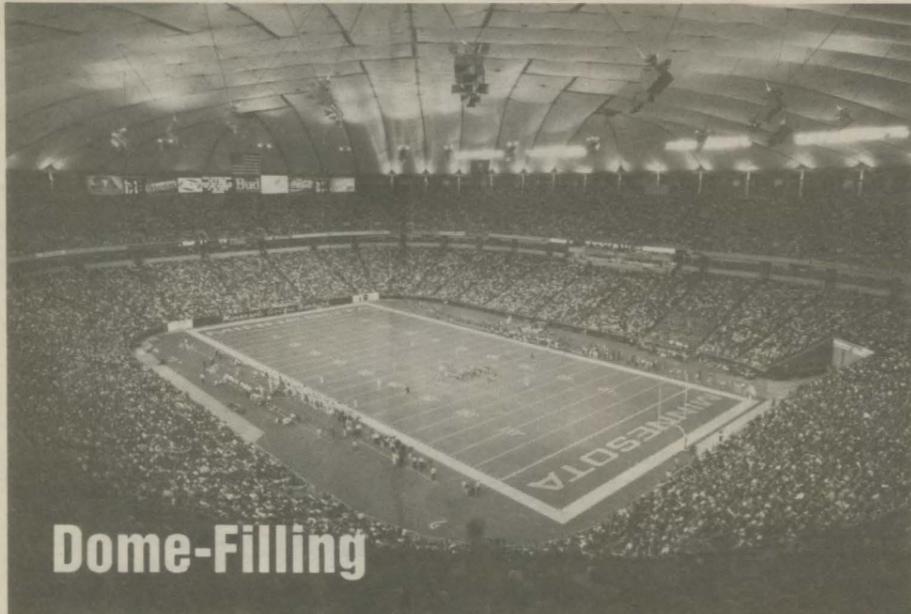
"The key for us to be successful in the Big Ten is to play good defense," Haskins says.

That's just what the Gophers did when they shocked 14th-ranked Michigan State and ninth-ranked Purdue at Williams Arena to open their conference season.



Chad Kolander

The early-season calamities forced Gopher players to look within themselves for those special qualities which enable a team to unite, persevere, and excel. As a result of those unfortunate happenings, this is a different team. Maybe better. Surprise.



## Dome-Filling

Hubert H. Humphrey Metrodome. Filling this for Gopher football is the goal.

Increased revenue is needed to support men's athletics at the University of Minnesota (U of M). To respond to this serious need, Dr. McKinley Boston, head of the Department of Men's Athletics, directed that a new comprehensive effort be initiated. "The top priority in dealing with our budget deficit," says the Department's Associate Director Mark Dienhart, "is to increase Gopher football ticket sales."

The financing of the remodeling of Williams Arena and the construction of the new Mariucci Hockey Arena are also tied to enhanced ticket sales.

Overseeing the stepped-up marketing, promotions, and ticket sales program is Vince Fuller, Director of the Williams Fund. He is working closely with a special ticket sales task force.

Focus groups are being used to secure input from Gopher fans. The information received will help in the development of a three-year marketing plan for U of M football.

"Our number one objective is to sell Gopher

football '93," Fuller comments. "We need more bodies in the stands."

All areas of the ticket sales process are being carefully scrutinized. "We are looking at ourselves and evaluating everything we do from answering the phone to sending the tickets out the door," Fuller explains. "We want to learn how we can serve our customers better, and we want customer service to be a responsibility shared by everyone in the Department of Men's Athletics."

The marketing plan may include expanded corporate sales, more club memberships at Williams and Mariucci Arenas, a renewed volunteer sales force, aggressive advertising, tiered ticket

pricing, and season ticket-holder mailings.

Gopher ticket sales are directed at a slightly different audience than the local professional sports organizations. "We are more family-oriented," Dienhart points out. "To appeal to this market, it is crucial that ticket prices be kept very affordable."

This year tickets sales are up for Gopher basketball and way up for Gopher hockey, Dienhart reports. "However, football must pick up a greater share of the revenue-generating burden," he stresses.

Recognizing that there's a great deal of competition for

fan support in the Twin Cities area, Fuller says, "We want to price our product so potential customers will regard Gopher sports, especially football, as an appealing entertainment option."

The arrival of Head Coach Jim Wacker last year has sparked statewide public interest in Gopher football. That interest must now be converted into increased ticket sales.

"Coach Wacker is a lightning rod," Dienhart remarks. "He promotes optimism wherever he goes, and he's a pleasure to work with."

Gopher football enthusiasm, team spirit, and a rejuvenated offense "give us lots to build on," Fuller adds. The final-game vic-



Dr. McKinley Boston, Men's Athletics Director, University of Minnesota

tory over arch-rival Iowa also helps.

A special focus of attention in the ticket promotion plan will be the U of M student body. "We will go where the students are - in the dorms, in Coffman Memorial Union, and the student unions on the west bank and St. Paul campus," Fuller indicates.

The intent is to encourage students to incorporate Gopher football in their entertainment plans. "We want our fans to have fun," Fuller emphasizes. He notes that having cheerleaders performing in the stands and the University band marching through the concourse at the Metrodome creates an upbeat environment and involves fans in the festivities.

A fully integrated ticket-selling, promotional, and marketing program hasn't been attempted before at the U of M. The goal is to increase football season ticket sales by approximately 5,000.

Considerable time is being spent to determine ways in which the ticket purchasing transaction can be made easier for the customer. This may involve some sort of enhanced ticket-ordering system.

"We have to break new ground," Dienhart notes. More businesses must be attracted to using Gopher sporting events for promotional purposes.

Fuller is eager to implement elements of the new marketing plan. "I'd like to see bus loads of Minnesota football fans coming to U of M football games from every county in the state," he says. "We'd have a Golden Gopher party at the Metrodome."



Mark Dienhart, Senior Associate Director, Men's Athletics

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## Calling the Turn with Jimmy Byrne

Sixteen and 16 (16 victories and 16 defeats) propelled Coach Clem Haskins' Gopher men's basketball team into the NIT tournament last season.

His Gophers are thinking 16 again as they continue through their Big Ten schedule. Only this time they are talking and thinking "Sweet 16," the passwords to the prize NCAA tournament.

However, Haskins says, "A realistic goal we have set for ourselves is to try and get back into the NCAA's tournament field of 64."

These guys are beginning to mature and come of age, and although they may never get to the Sweet 16 or Final Eight, I feel confident this group has great potential.

Haskins adds, "We have a lot of depth and experience, and there's no substitute for that in a league as strong as the Big Ten."

### MEMO TO CLEM HASKINS:

Naturally, you and your student-athletes are shooting for your "pie in the sky" -- the

"Sweet 16." But if you have to settle for a berth in the NIT again, that wouldn't be so bad anyway.

Sure, the NCAA, particularly since expanding to a 64-team draw, is still the top attraction. And national television exposure has also given the NCAA tournament added prestige.

But the somewhat lesser NIT has a certain charm all of its own. The NCAA is run strictly by educators. The NIT is run by knowing "outsiders." The difference in the two tournaments begins right there. So does the "fallout" from each one.

The NIT is played in Madison Square Garden, the main hub of sports news and gossip in the United States. "The Garden" and the Big Apple give any sports event a unique flavor rarely equalled anywhere else.

### MEMO TO DOUG WOOG:

At the end of the WCHA schedule this year, you may look back at the 10-day break in December for fall quarter finals as a real "break" for your team. It gave time to key players to recover from injuries.

You must be happy about the play of Craig Johnson (St. Paul, MN) and Jeff Nielsen (Grand Rapids, MN), both junior forwards. Before the fall quarter break, their scoring was very impressive.

If they can continue scoring and the injured players, particularly sophomore Darby Hendrickson (Richfield, MN), remain healthy for the remainder of the season, you could be contending for the league's top spot again.

### MEMO TO JIM WACKER:

You and your assistants must have seen a few players to your liking if you watched the Minnesota State High School football championship tournament this fall.

That was Minnesota high school football pretty much at its best, especially in the Lakeville/Cretin-Derham Hall Class AA championship game.

Public high school programs in Minneapolis, St. Paul, and Duluth have weakened during the past 20 years. Population changes are the main reason.



But the private schools in the Twin Cities, together with the public schools in the suburbs and in Greater Minnesota, have much-improved football programs.

The quality of high school football coaching remains high. You could see that at the state tournament.

Just keep the Minnesota high school coaches on your side. They can help your Gopher program tremendously.

*Jim Byrne began writing for the Minneapolis Star in 1936. His 43-year sports reporting career started with sailing and expanded to include a wide range of Minnesota sports at the high school, college, and professional levels.*

Darby Hendrickson

## Aches & Pains



Elizabeth A. Arendt, M.D.  
Director  
University of Minnesota  
Sports Medicine  
Institute

**Q** My daughter has been diagnosed as having Osgood-Schlatter disease. I thought this happened primarily in boys. Does this mean that she will have problems with her knees when she is older?

**A** Osgood-Schlatter disease is an overuse type injury involving the kneecap tendon. It is a type of "tendinitis" that affects where the tendon inserts to the leg bone. The point at which this tendon inserts into the leg bone has a small growth plate called an apophysis. This apophysis is weaker than the tendon itself, and when this tendon bone unit is overused, it is actually the growth plate that gets irritated before the tendon itself. So rather than a tendinitis of the kneecap tendon, we are really seeing an apophysitis, i.e., an inflammation of this growth plate.

That inflammation can result in a bump over the front of the leg bone, where the kneecap tendon inserts. Even after the inflammation or tenderness quiets down, this bump can persist. Once formed, the bump persists for life.

Treatment for this usually consists of cutting back on activities. Pain is aggravated by primarily jumping activities; secondarily by power takeoff and running activities. Rarely is strict immobilization needed, such as casting.

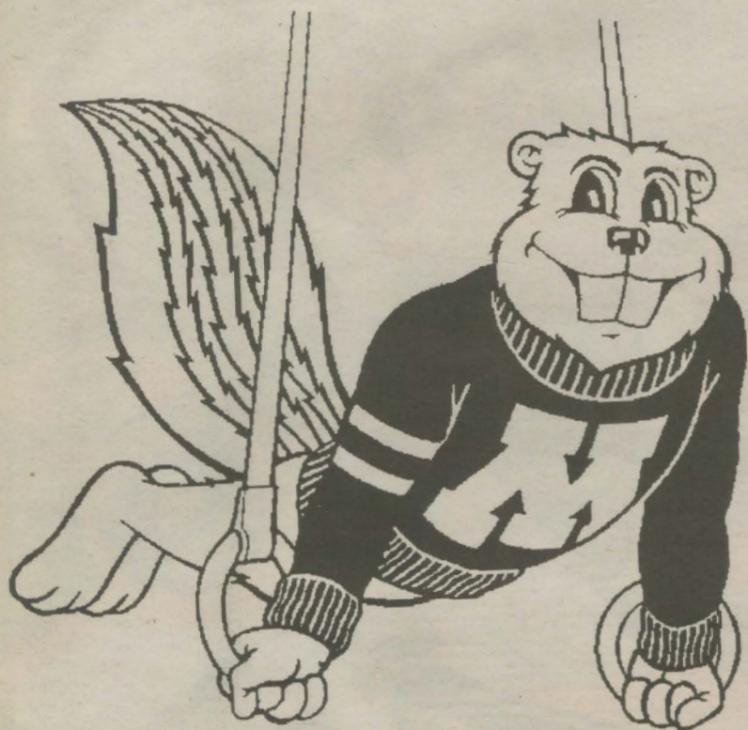
Once the child is done growing, no further problems are expected from this area. A noncosmetic bump may result, which can be a nuisance in a kneeling situation. On rare occasions, the patient may experience a small bone fragment or chip off of this bump. If this becomes painful, injection versus removing the bone chip might be suggested.

Osgood-Schlatter disease does not directly affect the knee joint, so no problems are anticipated in regards to ligaments, meniscus, cartilage, etc., as a result of this problem. The disease has clearly been seen more frequently in boys, but this is largely believed to be a socialization process. As more young girls are given the opportunity to engage in running and jumping sports, we are beginning to see this problem in young girls as well.

*Note to Readers: The Sports Medicine Institute at the University of Minnesota Hospital offers a very informative brochure entitled "Questions & Answers About Sports Injuries." You can get a free copy by calling 626-3776.*

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Jan. 23 vs. Oshkosh  
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Williams Arena

Mar. 1 vs. Michigan State  
7:30 pm  
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Mar. 20-21  
Big Ten Championships  
Williams Arena

For more information, call the Gopher Ticket Office at 624-8080

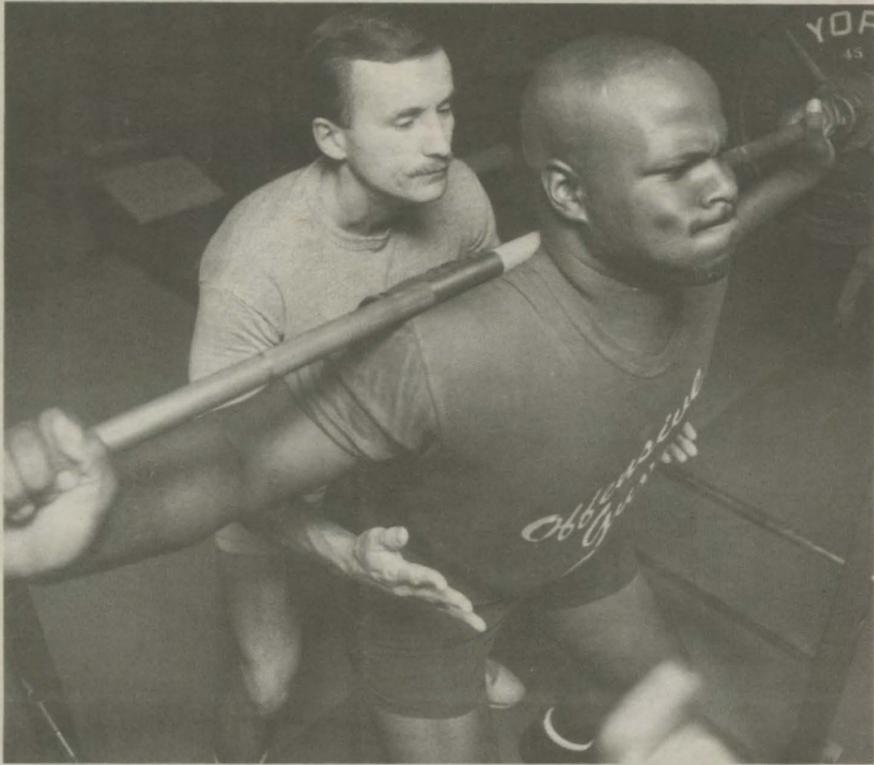
If you have sports medicine related questions, please send them to: **Aches and Pains** c/o Dr. Elizabeth A. Arendt, SPORTSNEWS, 386 N. Wabasha Street, Suite 1040, St. Paul, MN 55102



## Gopher Tales

By Kalley Lisam

Mark Hanson, →  
golf



Bob Rohde assists Gopher offensive lineman Keith Ballard ↑

**Football** - Bob Rohde, football strength and conditioning coach at the University of Minnesota (U of M) since 1979, has been promoted to head strength and conditioning coach for Men's Athletics. He will also assume additional duties as an administrative assistant in the Department of Men's Athletics.

Rohde will be responsible for all football travel and the department's Wheel Club. He will oversee operation of all department weight facilities, including the two weight rooms in the new Mariucci Arena and the renovated Williams Arena.

Kevin Yoxall will replace Rohde in the area of football strength and conditioning. For the past four years he has been head strength and conditioning coach at Texas Christian University. He worked with Gopher Head Football Coach Jim Wacker for three years.

Minnesota has again established 6:00 p.m. as its primary starting time for home football games. The games against Indiana State (September 11), Purdue (October 9), Wisconsin (October 23), and Michigan (November 13) will start at that time.

Due to conflicts with the Minnesota Twins, games against Kansas State (September 18) and Indiana (October 2) will begin at 7:00 p.m.

**Hockey** - Junior left wing Jeff Nielsen (Grand Rapids, MN) is on his way to what could be his best season as a Gopher. By early January he had already racked up 10 goals and 12 assists.

Having fully recovered from his hip flexor injury, All-WCHA candidate Chris McAlpine (Roseville, MN), a



Chris Carlisle, ↑ swimming

Hendrickson (Richfield, MN) had played since early November. A third-degree shoulder separation caused him to miss 11 games.

The U of M takes on Colorado College at Mariucci Arena on February 5 & 6.

**Swimming & Diving** - Twelve returning lettermen are helping the team as it competes for the Big Ten title this year. It is a challenging season for the Gophers. Six team members who scored points at last season's Big Ten and NCAA championship meets graduated. But Head Coach Dennis Dale says, "We still have some excellent athletes returning this season, including six athletes from our NCAA team."

Leading the team is senior All-American Paul Nelsen (Lincoln, NE), a former Big Ten champion in both the 200 & 400 individual medleys.

Tri-captains this year are seniors Steve Busse (Cincinnati, OH), Chris Carlisle (Arlington, TX), and David Zarns (New Brighton, MN).

An All-Comers meet will take place at the Aquatic Center, February 19-20.

**Golf** - Coach John Means says, "In senior captain Joe Gullion (San Antonio, TX) we have a premier

player, and I would match our young talent up against any program in the country."

Gullion had a 73.46 per round stroke average last season and was an All-Big Ten selection. He won the Spartan Classic

Kerry Huston, →  
gymnastics

junior defenseman, is back delivering powerful hits.

Sophomore forward Steve Magnusson (Dayton, MN) had an outstanding freshman year, playing in 41 games and recording nine goals and 24 assists. He received All-WCHA freshman team honors.

"Steve possesses superb instincts," Coach Woog says. "We look for him to make the steps necessary to develop into an all-star caliber player."

An all-metro and all-state choice his senior year at Anoka High School, Magnusson is expected to see increased action, especially on the power play, as the year proceeds.

The St. Paul Companies Mariucci Classic opening the new year marked the first series in which sophomore Darby

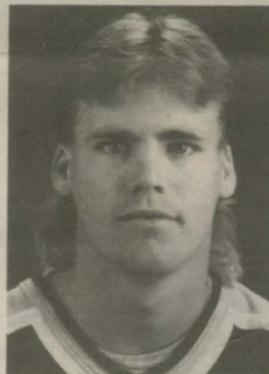


and Walter McGlaughlin tournaments and finished in the top five seven times during the year.

Gullion also earned All-Big Ten Academic honors.

Sophomore Mark Hanson (Cedar Rapids, IA) is expected to be a major contributor in 1993. As a freshman, he placed third in the Walter McGlaughlin tournament and was a semi-finalist in the Western Junior Open.

Hanson was runner-up in the Iowa State Golf Championship his senior year in high school and was widely recruited throughout the country. He was a two-year National Honor Society member and graduated in the top 10% of his class.



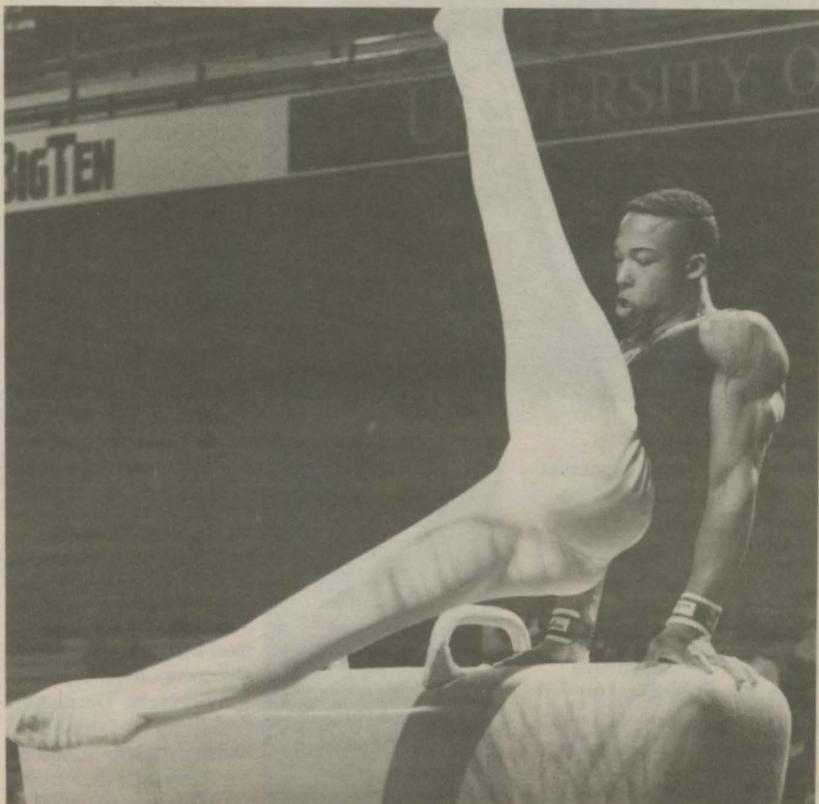
Steve Magnusson, ↑  
hockey

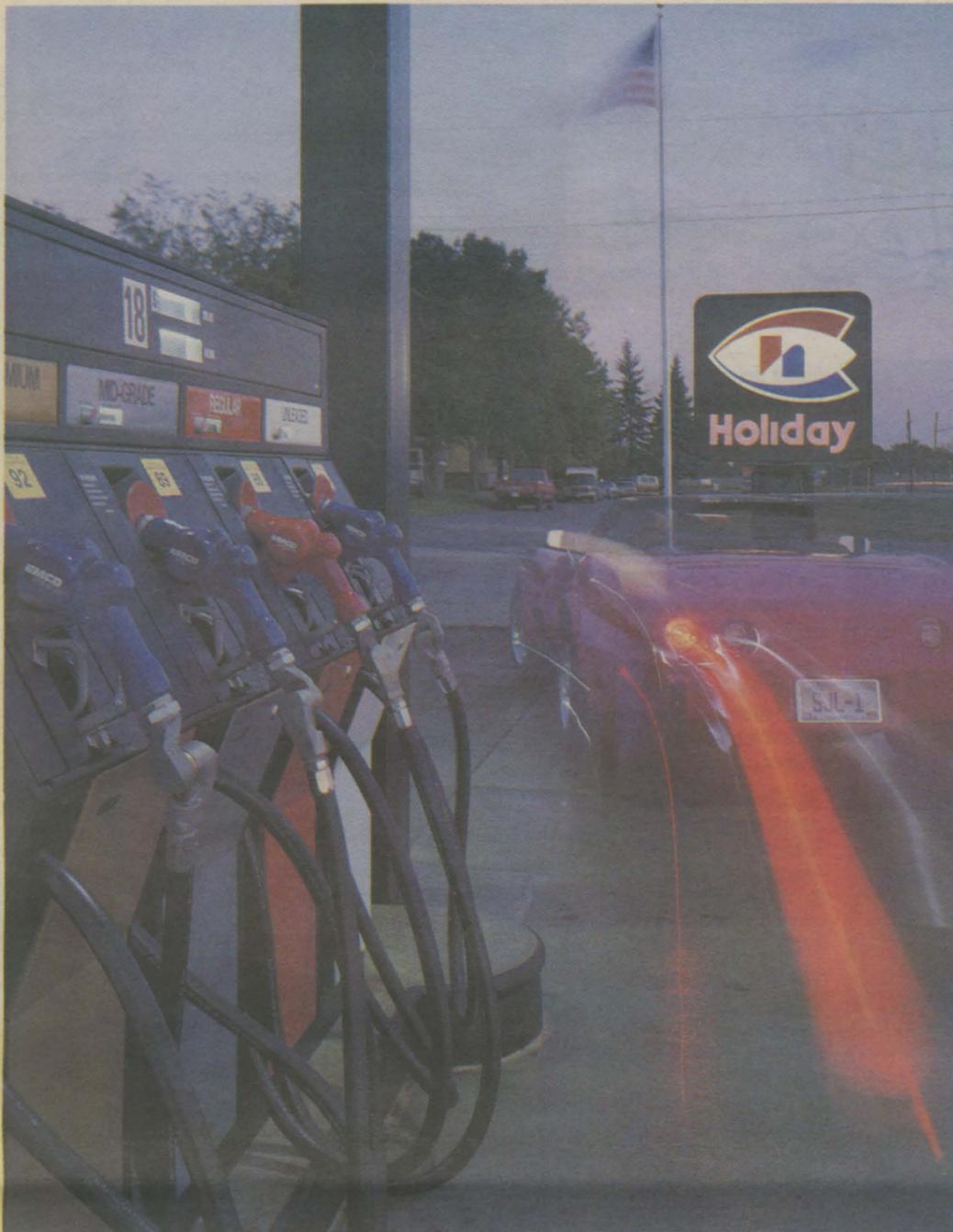
The team will compete in the American University of Puerto Rico Tournament February 12-14.

**Gymnastics** - Minnesota pursues its fourth straight Big Ten Championship this season. Seven gifted lettermen return from last year. These include two-time NCAA all-around champion and Olympian John Roethlisberger (Afton, MN), All-Americans Rob Hanson (Ramsey, MN) and Brian Yee (Houston, TX), and Kerry Huston (Spring, TX), last year's Freshman of the Year in the Big Ten.

Two talented freshmen bolster the team. They are Chris Harrington (Brookfield, WI) and Andrew Weaver (Albuquerque, NM).

Continued on page 8



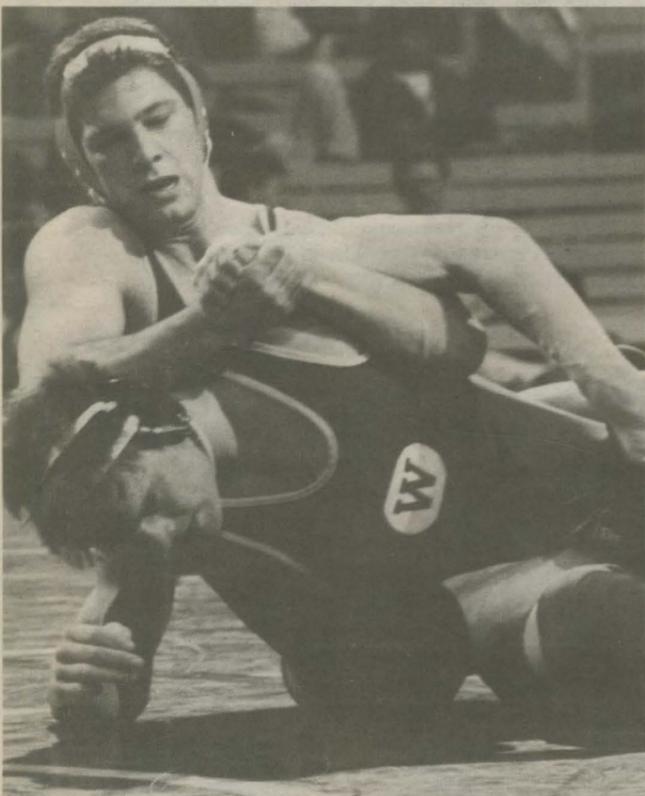


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## Gopher Tales from page 7



← Michael Marzetta (on top), wrestling

**Wrestling** - Ranked 15th in the nation in *Amateur Wrestling News*, the Gophers won four dual meets in California during December. They defeated San Francisco State, UC Davis, Fresno State, and Cal State Bakersfield.

At the Midwest Championships in Des Moines, Minnesota claimed championships in eight of the ten weight classes.

Winners were sophomores **Steve Baer** (Agoura Hills, CA) at 118 pounds; **Tim Harris** (St. Louis, MO) at 126; **Brett Colombini** (Redwood Valley, CA) at 167; and **Jason Klohs** (Maple Grove, MN) at 190.

Junior champions were **Damon Johnson** (Mustang, OK) at 142 and **Willy Short** (Inver Grove Heights, MN) at 150.

Senior **Michael Marzetta** (Liberty Lake, WA) prevailed at 158 and freshman **Billy Pierce** (Minneapolis, MN) at heavyweight. The championship was the third tournament title of the season for Pierce and the second for Marzetta, and 1993 hadn't even begun.

← Jason Klohs, wrestling

**Basketball** - Gopher basketball and hockey trading card sets are now on sale with all proceeds going to the Williams Scholarship Fund (612/625-1001).

The 17-card basketball set (\$6.50) contains pictures of 1992-93 team members, Coach Clem Haskins, and his assistants. The 26-card hockey set (\$8.50) includes pictures of each member of the team and Coach Doug Woog.

These card sets are being sold at all home hockey and basketball games and may also be ordered through the mail.



## Memorabilia Needed

The Sports Information Office at the Bierman Building on the campus of the University of Minnesota is looking for old (1960 or before) Gopher sports programs, media guides, and yearbooks.

If you would be willing to donate any of these, please call Karen Zwach (612/625-4090) at Sports Information. Or mail items to:

Karen Zwach,  
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Bierman Building,  
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# SPORTSNEWS

FEBRUARY, 1993

VOLUME 4 / NUMBER 7

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- New "Barn", Page 6

## THE CAPTAIN

By Jim Mulrooney



Travis Richards arrives for afternoon practice at Mariucci Arena.

Call him a hero, and he won't like it. But he's got all the qualities. Talent. Dedication. Modest temperament.

At the end of this season, senior Travis Richards (Crystal, MN) will probably rank as one of the three all-time top scoring defensemen in Gopher hockey history.

"He's a quiet leader and a class individual," says Assistant Coach Bill Butters. "His teammates unanimously voted for Travis to be our 1992-93 team captain, and the entire coaching staff wholeheartedly agreed with their decision."

A graduate of Armstrong High School, Richards earned all-state honors and was named to *Parade Magazine's* Team of the Year in 1988. He was drafted in the ninth round by the Minnesota North Stars that year.

Hockey has been an important part of Richards' life since he was five-years-old. His parents, Tom and Bonnie, come from the Iron Range where hockey is king.

"My dad was my biggest influence," Richards explains. "He coached bantam

hockey for years, and he taught me how to play."

Richards' folks have remained steadfast supporters, attending almost every home game and traveling to watch games in Duluth and Madison, as well. Even his grandparents drive down from Eveleth to take in several Gopher games at Mariucci Arena.

The commitment of Tom and Bonnie Richards to Gopher hockey has been long-term. Another of their sons, Todd, was also a standout University of Minnesota (U of M) defenseman (1985-89). He now is a member of the Hartford Whalers organization in the National Hockey League.

"I admire Todd and the way he plays," Travis says of his brother. "I wish I was as good."

Coach Butters points out that the Richards have unique skills and "both have been a joy to work with as players and as people."

For a dozen years before becoming a student at the U of M, Travis accompanied his father to Gopher hockey games at Mariucci Arena. "I always wanted to be a Gopher and play in Mariucci," he comments. "Year-in and year-out, this is the best hockey program in the country."

Richards turned down several full scholarships from other colleges prior to accepting a half scholarship from the University of Minnesota.

As expected, he was redshirted 1988-89, his brother's last year as a Gopher. He admits, "It was tough to practice more than I ever had in my whole life and not even get to suit up for a single game."

However, in the following two seasons Richards played in every game (90), recording a total of 13 goals (including four game-winners) and 49 assists.

In 1991 he played on Team North which won the gold medal at the U.S. Olympic Trials.

Last season Richards tallied ten goals (four on the power play) and had 23 assists. "It was great to win the Western Collegiate Hockey Association (WCHA) Championship, but the nine-to-three loss to Lake Superior State in the NCAA Quarter Finals was the worst of my career," he recalls.

At the halfway mark this season, Richards led the Gophers in assists, was third in scoring, and ranked as the fifth top scorer among defensemen in the WCHA.

"Travis has worked very hard during the past five years," Butters remarks. "He's stronger and a much better skater now and has devel-

oped into one of the premier players in the WCHA."

A consensus All-America and All-WCHA candidate, Richards is an offensive-minded defenseman. While he can take the body and block, he has special talents which make him a constant goal-scoring threat.

"He's coy and subtle in taking the puck from an opponent," Butters says. "He helps us a great deal, because the best defense is a good offense."

Finesse more than muscle characterizes Richards' style. Although he doesn't shy away from physical confrontations, he doesn't consider himself an enforcer. "All the guys on our team can handle themselves, and they don't need any protection," he remarks.

"Hitting is a part of the game, but my chief responsibility is to stop the other team from scoring," he explains. "However, if I get a scoring chance, I'll go for it."

Richards thinks he's very fortunate to have been a part of the Gopher hockey program. "I wouldn't be here without Coach Butters,"



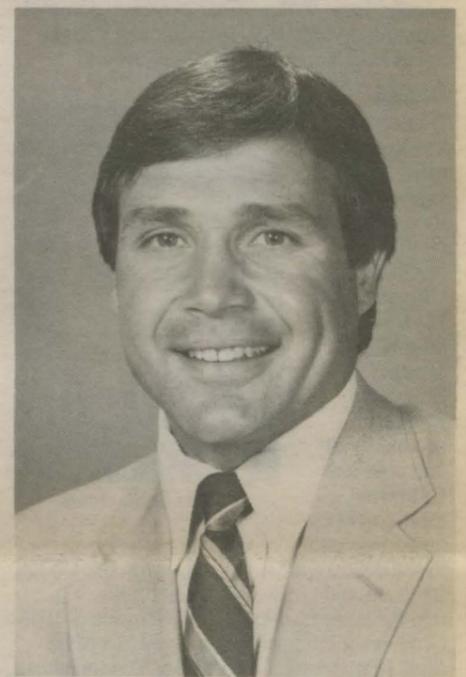
he emphasizes. "He has taught me so much about the game and has put in a lot of time trying to make me a better player."

He adds, "I have only good things to say about (Head) Coach Woog and Coach Butters, and I respect them both."

As one of just three seniors on this year's team, Richards has attempted to "help the younger guys relax, have fun, and play good hockey."

In reviewing the season to date, Richards says, "We feel we should be doing better. We have to play more consistently and cut down on our penalties. But we have so many talented players on this team that when we come together we can be great."

Relentless all-out effort has been the key to



Bill Butters, Asst. Hockey Coach, University of Minnesota

Richards' success. "No matter what the score, Travis plays hard every single shift," Coach Butters comments. "He's just a source of pride for the University of Minnesota, and it has been a treat to be associated with him for these past five years."

Although he's impressed with the new hockey arena which is under construction, Richards says, "I'm happy to be playing the last games in the old Mariucci Arena. We'd like to close out this season on a winning note as a tribute to Mariucci. He's a legend, and he deserves it."

A speech communications major who will graduate this spring, Richards indicates he hasn't thought too much about playing professional hockey. But he'd like to play, if given the opportunity.

"Travis definitely has the desire, work ethic, hockey smarts, and competitive spirit to reach the next level," Butters predicts. "He has a shot at making the Olympic Team or signing a pro contract."

"It's been an honor to play for the University of Minnesota," Richards concludes. "These have been the best years of my life. I'd recommend this school to anyone."

Just don't call him a hero.

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## Profiles of Gopher Student-Athletes



Bo Haun, gymnastics

Bo Haun (Tulsa, OK), gymnastics junior, 20-years-old... English major... graduate of Booker T. Washington High School... state champion in the floor rings his senior year... pommel horse champion at regional meet... earned varsity letter in golf... took first place in German essay contest and was secretary of the German Club... earned his first varsity letter at the University of Minnesota (U of M) in 1990-91... competed in every meet for the Gophers last year and won his second varsity letter... U of M personal bests prior to this year: 9.30 in parallel bars; 9.45 in floor exercise, pommel horse, and vault; 9.50 in still rings; 9.70 in horizontal bar; and 55.90 in all-around.

**Ross Loel**

(Rancho LaCosta, CA), tennis sophomore... food science major... graduate of University High School... all-city and all-state honors as senior... finished second in city and southern California tournaments... ranked seventh in the country in Boys' 16s... won the USTA International Grass Court Championship... tied for team lead in singles victories (27) as a Gopher rookie last season... won 16 of his final 18 matches... 10-5 in Big Ten matches... 13-2 in doubles (3-0 in Big Ten).

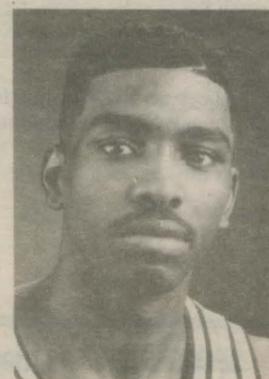


Ross Loel, tennis

**Vincent Hypolite**

(LaMarque, TX), track & field freshman, 19-years-old... plans to major in communications... graduate of LaMarque High School... won state long jump title as a sophomore with longest jump in state history (25'2")... won the state long jump title again his senior year and placed third in the triple jump... honored as prep All-American by *Track & Field News*... earned all-state honors twice in both football and track... also lettered in baseball and basketball... is also a defensive back for the Gopher football team.

**Townsend Orr** (Dolton, IL), basketball junior, 6'1" guard, 20-years-old... concentrations in Afro-American studies and recreation... graduate of Thornridge High School... prep All-American... NIKE All-Star... averaged 20.5 points, 7.2 rebounds, and 7.4 assists as a senior... two-time all-state selection... MVP of the Proviso Tournament... an honor roll student... played in 36 games during his first two years as a Gopher, totaling 159 points



Townsend Orr, basketball

and 52 rebounds... recorded career high 20 points (five-for-five from three-point range) against Michigan State last season... averaged 9.3 points a game for the Big Ten all-star team that toured Europe in the summer... played in 13 of first 13 games this season, averaging 7.7 points per game (9.3 in Big Ten).

**Brad Gibson**

(Chokio, MN), wrestling junior, 177 pounds, 22-years-old... Inter College Program major... graduate of Chokio-Alberta High School... Minnesota state high school champion in 1987 and 1988 at 185 pounds... runner-up at 189 in 1989... finished high school career with 127-18 record with 92 pins... also earned four letters as a running back in football... redshirted last year... compiled an excellent 22-12-0 record with four pins as a Gopher in 1990-91... runner-up at the 1990 Bison Open... has wrestled at 167, 177, and 190 for the University of Minnesota.



Brad Gibson, wrestling

**Andy Kurtz**

(Coon Rapids, MN), swimming & diving junior, 20-years-old... majoring in mechanical engineering... graduate of Coon Rapids High School... earned two silver medals at the 1990 U.S. Olympic Festival... high school All-American in 1988 and 1989... five-time Minnesota State Champion (100 backstroke, 100 butterfly, and 200 individual medley)... set freshman record as a member of the 400 medley relay and in the 100 backstroke in 1990 for the University of Minnesota... earned All-American recognition as a member of the 400 medley relay... selected to the 1991 and 1992 Academic All-America teams... was a Big Ten Champion as a member of the 400 medley relay in 1990... scored at the Big Ten Championships in both the 100 and 200 backstroke in 1990 and 1991.



Andy Kurtz, swimming &amp; diving

**Todd Hallett** (Eden Prairie, MN), golf senior, 22-years-old... general management major at Carlson School of Management... graduate of Eden Prairie High School... four-year letter-winner... earned all-conference honors all four years... recorded 18-hole best of 66... also lettered as goalie in hockey and quarterback/defensive back in football... selected as top male scholar-athlete in his graduating class... member of the National Honor Society... averaged 79.0 in 1990-91 and 77.3 last season.



Todd Hallett, golf

**Justin McHugh** (Minnetonka, MN), hockey sophomore, 5'10", 187-pound forward, 19-years-old... plans to major in business... graduate of Minnetonka High School... earned seven letters (three in baseball, two in hockey, and two in football)... all-metro in hockey his senior year... named to all-tournament team at the 1990 Minnesota State High School Hockey Tournament as junior... recorded 45 goals and 34 assists in prep career... played in 41 games and scored 14 goals and nine assists in his freshman season with the Gophers... tallied

## Letters

**NAMES ON JERSEYS WOULD BE BIG HELP**

I believe the greatest sports entertainment in the Twin Cities, barring none, is Minnesota Gopher basketball. I can't get to every game and would like to know who the players are when I watch them play. I wish the Gophers had their names on the back of their jerseys.  
Charles Leonard  
Minneapolis

**BAND ADDS TO BASKETBALL**

I wish to congratulate the University of Minnesota Band for playing at the basketball games in Williams Arena. They add so much to the already heightened excitement in the arena. The Minnesota Band is one of the University's hidden pleasures.  
Mrs. Rosalie Springer  
Roseville, Minnesota

**WRITER LOOKED UP TO PELTIER BROOKS AND ANDERSON**

Here is my entry for the December, 1992 issue of the SPORTSNEWS Contest, "Who Am I?": Doug Peltier.

As a St. Paul Johnson High School graduate I always looked up to people such as Doug Peltier, Herb Brooks and Wendy Anderson. Thanks for the publication. Keep up the good work.  
Christopher Nalty  
St. Paul

*Ed. note: Craig Anderson of Chaska, Minnesota won two tickets to a Gopher basketball game and a Chalk Line, maroon and gold jacket given by Holiday Plus, for correctly identifying Doug Peltier as the "Who Am I?" winner. Thanks for writing and please try again (there were fourteen correct answers.)*

**TOUGH TO TAKE**

I was at Mariucci Arena last month when Northern Michigan shut out our Gophers. It was difficult to watch. Rarely over the years have I seen Minnesota fans leave the arena early.

But, as bad as it was, I didn't lose heart. These young hockey talents will persevere and, ultimately, prevail.  
Kenneth Dupont  
Minneapolis

**PARADISE REMEMBERED**

I never knew Dick Paradise personally but, after reading your tribute to him (December, 1992 SPORTSNEWS), I wish I had.

However, I did see Dick Paradise play Gopher hockey. And that was something I will never forget.  
Steve Baylor  
Minneapolis

**BRAVO BOSTON**

I agree with Dr. Boston's criticism of sensationalized media coverage. Although I don't think it happens often in the Twin Cities, whenever it does it's ugly.  
Mary Ann Palmer  
St. Paul

**GYMNASTICS CHAMPIONSHIPS**

There are a couple of dates all Gopher sports fans should circle on their calendars. They are March 20 & 21 when the Big Ten Gymnastics Championships take place at the University of Minnesota. It'll be an opportunity to view some of the nation's finest athletes, a number of whom are Gophers.  
Gerald Kline  
Hopkins

**EXCITEMENT**

It would be very hard to experience a more exciting sporting event than a Gopher basketball game at Williams Arena. Call it the "bam" or whatever, but that place sure is a wonderful home. Of all the places I've watched Minnesota sports action, Williams is my favorite. The crowd clamor and basketball floor action combine for an event that is electrifying.  
Tom Vanderweden  
Rochester

**FIGHT LESS/SCORE MORE**

Maybe if Gopher skaters would fight less they'd have the strength to score more. The only punches I'm interested in seeing are offensive ones.  
John Day  
Roseville

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eight goals in last ten games... played in each of the first 22 games this season, recording eight goals and seven assists to rank seventh on the team.

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## Where Are They Now? It Pays to Stay and Play in Minnesota

By Len Levine



The issue of much sought after athletes going away to college rather than attending the University of Minnesota is of-

ten in the news. Recruiters and Gopher boosters make the point well that one of the greatest benefits of going to the U of M is that there will be life after sports in the thriving Twin Cities area. Yet, some great high school athletes choose to leave town, much to the dismay of local sports followers.

I don't think there is a good reason to leave, if given the chance to compete in a Division I program in the athlete's backyard.

Over the years there have been many outstanding high school athletes with tremendous potential who have chosen the University of Minnesota over many other schools. A good example, and one that makes the case, is Larry Johnson of Edina. His story tells it all.

Johnson grew up in Edina and was educated in the city's public schools. He says his mother, Betty (who now lives in Yuma, Arizona) and his late father, Bob, who was a star athlete at West High School in Minneapolis, knew the value of participating in sports and got him involved early. There was no pee-wee league in Edina in those years so the Johnson's signed up young Larry to play in the Minneapolis Savings and Loan League under the coaching of Al Crary (in addition to his father, Larry credits Crary with being one of the most important "influences on my life.")

Johnson carried his interest in sports into Edina High School where he starred on the hockey, football and baseball teams. He was named to All-Conference teams in hockey, baseball and football his sophomore, junior and senior years and the All-State hockey team his senior year.

Johnson says two highlights of his high school sports career came in hockey, first as a junior when Edina went to the State Hockey Tournament for the first time (they lost that game) and the following year losing once again, this time to Thief River Falls, 3-2, in three overtimes. Johnson, the team captain, who scored a record 51 goals that year,



Larry Johnson, 1960

scored Edina's only two goals. Thief River Falls went on to win the State Tournament.

Johnson was heavily recruited to play hockey by colleges across the country. He narrowed his choices to Minnesota and Michigan. Acting Gopher Coach Marsh Ryman called on Johnson. "He made the point that Minnesota was a great school with a winning hockey tradition and the best place to live afterwards," Johnson says today. "I felt he was right and my parents agreed." Johnson enrolled at Minnesota in 1956.

Johnson says hockey was his "main sport" and because he wanted to keep in shape for hockey he went out for freshman football. He did so well he was named the first team quarterback. He was red-shirted in both football and hockey that year and didn't see any varsity action until his sophomore year (1958).

As a sophomore he played football behind quarterback Jim Reese, although he missed part of the season because of an appendectomy. He still played enough to earn his first of three varsity football letters. The following football season he played close to 250 minutes, alternating with the great Sandy Stephens. As a senior he and Stephens again split the quarterback duties

as they took the Gophers to a national championship and a trip to the Rose Bowl.

Looking back on his football days Johnson

says three games stand out. As a sophomore in the season finale against sixth ranked Wisconsin (Dale Hackbart was quarterback for the Badgers) Johnson threw his first touchdown pass, a 76 yarder which was caught by Dick Johnson. The Gophers lost the game 27-12. In the 1960 homecoming game against Illinois, Johnson was 6 for 6 in passing as the Gophers defeated the Illini, 21-10. In the 1961 Rose Bowl Game in which the Gophers lost to Washington, 17-7, Johnson says he still dreams of what might have been had he not made a mistake on one play. The Gophers were on the line of scrimmage and Johnson made an audible call as he read the Huskie's defense. He says although the Gophers were on their own 40 yard line he saw a big opening which could have given them "big time yardage, maybe even a touchdown. It was a lead pipe cinch." Johnson checked off at the line of scrimmage and called the play he wanted to run. When the ball was snapped, the team went to the right and he ran to the left (the wrong way!) getting tackled behind the line of scrimmage.

Johnson says he often lays in bed thinking of that one play, because if he executed it properly, it could have turned the tide in the game.

As a Gopher Hockey player Johnson started on the ice all three years playing mainly defense under Coach John Mariucci. He says his biggest thrill was playing in the NCAA Championship his senior year.

After his eligibility ended, Johnson was drafted by Buffalo and Chicago in the National Hockey League but decided instead to go to work for his father's Minneapolis construction company. Armed with enough credits for two degrees, Johnson ran the company, Kibbey Engineering and Construction, until 1982.



Johnson playing for Stephens Buick

Because he still maintained an active interest in sports (through the years he played baseball with the Bloomington Athletics and Southern Minnesota teams and hockey for Stephens Buick) he got involved in administrative type work for a number of United States National and Olympic hockey teams. He became the General Manager of the 1982 U.S. National Hockey Team, the General Manager of the 1984 and 1992 U.S.



Larry Johnson, 1960



Larry Johnson, 1993

Olympic Hockey Teams, Business Manager of the 1988 U.S. Olympic Hockey team and Business Manager of the U.S. Canada Cup Hockey teams in 1984 and 1987.

For the past six years Johnson has been the president and treasurer of Marketing Consultants, selling property, casualty and liquor liability insurance programs to the hospitality industry.

Never wanting to be far from the world of sports, Johnson has just begun his latest business venture,

Sports Software, Inc., which provides a computerized scouting system under an exclusive contract with the National Hockey League.

Johnson looks back at his days as a Gopher and says attending the University of Minnesota was "the best decision that I ever made. The many friends I made while at the U are still my friends today. Guys like Greg Larson, Billy Kauth, Tom Brown, Joe Salem and Tom Moe. Many still live in this area. They're a great fraternity of guys. Those friendships are something I'll always have. The University of Minnesota is a great institution. My years there will be something I will never forget."

Johnson says if he could give one message to high school athletes who, like himself, considered going away to school, is "think hard about going to Minnesota and what life will be like after the playing days are finished." He adds, "There's an advantage to making a name at a school like Minnesota located in the Twin Cities area and then staying in that area. The friends and contacts I made at the University have helped me throughout my life and especially in my business career."

Johnson has been active in a wide range of community and civic affairs, serving on many boards and committees, such as the "M" Club (he was President in 1976), Interlachen Country Club, Touchdown Club and the Amateur Hockey Association of the United States.

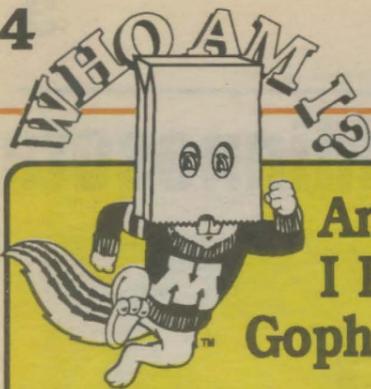
Johnson and his wife of 34 years, Susan, live in Edina. They are the parents of three grown children: Rick, 30, who's in hotel management in Dallas, Texas; Ginny, 27, who soon will graduate with a masters degree in Physical Therapy from the University of Colorado Medical School; and Jeff, 26, a graduate of the University of Minnesota's Carlson School of Management with a B.S.B. degree in Finance.

Len Levine earned three varsity letters as a member of the Gopher track team and established several records, one of which (the 60-yard dash) stood for 17 years. He was the silver medal winner in the 1960 Big Ten 300-yard dash championship. Levine was President of the "M" Club in 1989.

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## And What Part Did I Play In The Golden Gopher Tradition?

I grew up in Hibbing, Minnesota where I played just about every sport there was. When I got to Hibbing High School I played guard on the basketball team, quarterback on the football squad, was an infielder in baseball and a sprinter on the track team. In 1958 the *Missabi Daily News* named me the "Athlete of the Year" for all of Northern Minnesota.



1962 Photo

As a Gopher I played basketball for John Kundla and was the team captain for the 1961-62 season. After my basketball eligibility was finished, I joined the sales team of Mackay Envelope Company. For the next four years I was consistently one of Harvey Mackay's top sales representatives.

In 1971 I became sports editor of the *Hibbing Daily Tribune*. In 1976 I became sports director of Duluth television stations, WDIO and KBJR. Since 1985 I have worked for Spirit Mountain in Duluth.

I'll always remember the night we defeated Michigan State 89-70. We scored more points that night than in any other game in which John Kundla was the coach. We were also tough under the boards, pulling down 39 rebounds as compared to 17 for the Spartans. In the picture at left, I am shown scoring the game's first points.



WHO AM I?



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## Williams Scholarship Fund

The recent success record of Men's Athletics at the University of Minnesota (U of M) has been phenomenal. Last year the Gophers won four conference championships (baseball, gymnastics, hockey, and tennis), more than any other school in the Big Ten. Their swimming & diving team was runner-up in the Big Ten.



Dr. Nils Hasselmo,  
President, U of M

The outstanding performances of Gopher student-athletes have introduced many throughout the nation to the University of Minnesota. The U of M's standard of excellence and its commitment to integrity have been showcased for all to see

through its Department of Men's Intercollegiate Athletics.

The Department receives no state funds to defray annual operating expenses. The income necessary to run a top-quality Men's Athletics program results from private contributions, ticket sales, radio and television broadcasting revenue, and corporate sponsorships.

"Intercollegiate athletics is...an integral part of the 'fabric' of this University," U of M President Nils Hasselmo said.

To assist the University in running a premier Men's Athletics program, the Williams Fund was established in 1949. Named after Dr. Henry Williams, Minnesota's first full-time football coach (1900-21), the Williams Fund uses donations primarily to satisfy scholarship obligations and to cover educational expenses for students participating in men's athletics.

"Scholarships go to student-athletes who have excelled in the classroom and on the playing field," explained Vince Fuller, director of the Williams Fund. Currently, there are approxi-

mately 180 Williams Scholars attending the University of Minnesota.

Donations to the Williams Fund can also be designated for the improvement of facilities, equipment, team travel, and other projects that directly enhance the Men's Athletics program.

"We need community support to run our 11-sport athletic program," Fuller stressed.

In addition to the benefits which accrue to the participating student-athletes, Gopher



Dr. Henry L. Williams,  
Gopher Football Coach,  
1900 - 21

athletics promotes a sense of community on the University's campus. It helps bind together a rich and diverse student body in support of a common interest.

Men's Athletics provides a wide range of affordable entertainment experiences for Minnesota families. It also has a positive economic impact on the Twin Cities and the state.

But perhaps most especially, the efforts of U of M student-athletes develop a sense of pride among Minnesota citizens. Student-athletes work, sacrifice, endure disappointment and physical discomfort in pursuit of competitive success. They create lasting memories for participants and fans alike. And, on occasion, they develop the legends around which all Minnesotans can rally.

The University of Minnesota is, of course, much more than Men's Athletics. It is a distinguished institution of intellectual

Continued on page 6

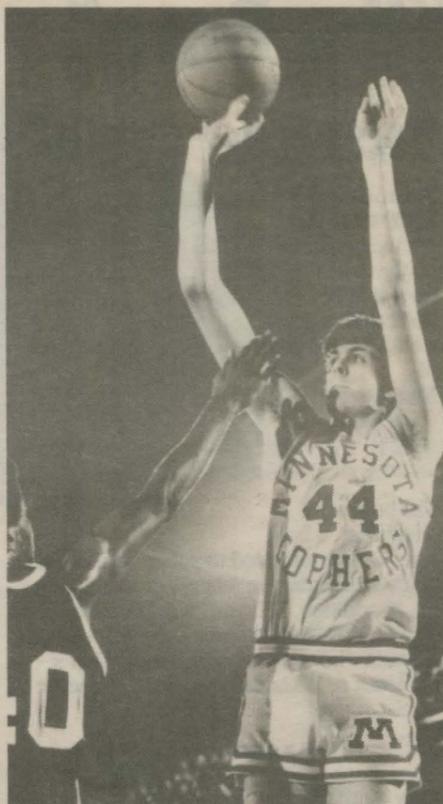


## Calling the Turn with Jimmy Byrne

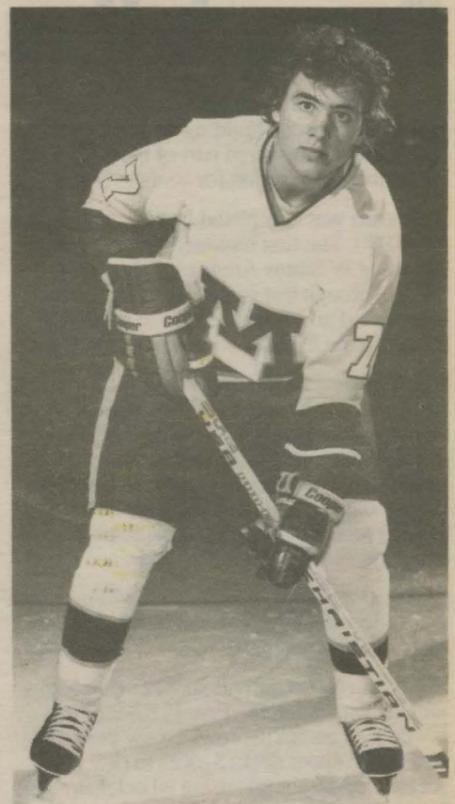
As it is now, an athlete hoping to join the pro ranks needs an agent. And that agent should be a lawyer.



Keith Fahnhorst, football



Kevin McHale, basketball



Neil Broten, hockey

An agent told me, "Prior to 1960, the amount of compensation paid to athletes was minuscule in comparison with the present salary structures and, therefore, it did not make economic sense to have a representative."

He adds, "The then-professional athlete had very few alternatives to playing his entire career with the club that drafted him. The athlete had almost no leverage in contract negotiations."

Some lawyer-agents specialize in just one sport. Others cover the spectrum.

Former Gophers who have had agents are Keith and Jim Fahnhorst, Matt Herkenhoff, Jon Melander, and Ollie Bakken in football. In basketball, Kevin McHale.

Paul Molitor tops the list in baseball. An agent was involved a few months ago when Molitor ended his lengthy and successful playing career in Milwaukee and joined the World Champion Toronto Blue Jays.

Gerald Ujdur, Greg Olson, Tim McIntosh, and J.T. Bruett are other Gopher baseball players an agent has represented in the pro leagues. Gopher hockey players who have hired agents include Mike Ramsey, Russ Anderson, Paul Holmgren, Reed Larson, Neil Broten, Tom Younghans, Tom Chorske, Corey Millin, Trent Klatt, and Larry Olimb.

There are presently approximately 1,200 registered agents in all sports. Not surprisingly, football has the most, 620. Basketball is next with 230. Baseball has 168 and hockey 100.

Even in these times, NCAA rules prohibit student-athletes from speaking to agents until their college playing days have been exhausted.

This rule has been in effect for a long time. Like many of the "fringe rules," it must be difficult to enforce or follow.

It has been my opinion that any student-athlete who has the ability to pursue a professional sports career should not have to wait until his college career has been exhausted before getting the assistance of an agent. However, the agent must be qualified, competent, and registered.

Look over the previous list of former Gopher student-athletes who have made it in the pros. When they signed their professional contracts, it was the biggest day so far in their athletic careers.

Professional sports have more college men than ever before. Except for baseball, the pros

have come to rely on the college sports programs as their "farm systems."

Only a very small percentage of college athletes ever get to the professional ranks. Allow them the "tools" to do it right. And one of those "tools" is a skilled professional sports agent who can help the student-athlete before his college career is over.

*Jim Byrne began writing for the Minneapolis Star in 1936. His 43-year sports reporting career started with sailing and expanded to include a wide range of Minnesota sports at the high school, college, and professional levels.*

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## Remodeling "the Barn"

Williams Arena is a fabled place. The renovation of this special building will ensure that it will remain a treasured part of the University of Minnesota tradition for years to come.

The arena was completed in 1928 at a cost of \$650,000. The first basketball game was played at Williams Arena on February 4, 1928. Through last season, the Gophers had established an amazing 577-126 won-lost record in the friendly confines of "the Barn."

The Williams Arena renovation project began last year. The building addition at the east end has provided an upgraded lobby and concourse space, new locker and training facilities, an arena club, improved media accommodations and meeting space. Much-needed roof repair and air circulation improvements have also been made.

The second phase of renovation will include a box office on the south side, plus improvement of arena seating.

More than 6,000 individual seats with backs will be installed in the first 25 rows of the lower deck and in the rows below the walkway in the upper deck. Spaces to accommodate patrons using wheelchairs will be expanded.

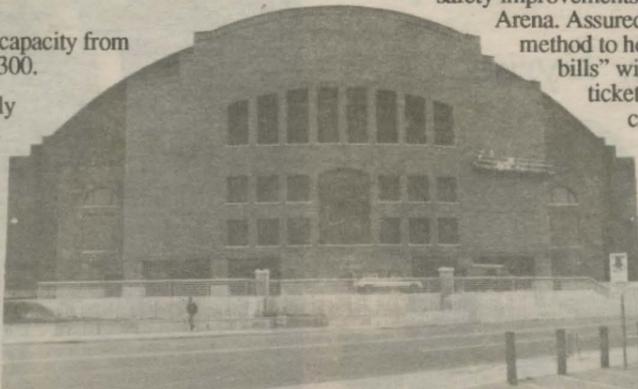
In order to comply with fire and evacuation regulations, some aisles will be widened, low-

ering seating capacity from 16,400 to 14,300.

Approximately 2,800 seats at the west end on the lower level will be dedicated to a University of Minnesota (U of M) student section.

The bulk of remaining seats will be allocated to public season ticket-holders according to relative ordering longevity. In addition, 720 seats will be made available as assured seating upgrade options for fans who wish to contribute to Men's Athletics or the building project at specific levels.

It is hoped that a seating model of the renovated arena will be in place by late March or early April. By then it should be possible to give each season ticket-holder a close approximation of his or her seat location for the 1993-94 basketball season.



New Oak Street Addition to Williams Arena

No State or University funds could be utilized to provide for the needed construction and safety improvements to Williams

Arena. Assured seating is one method to help "pay the bills" without major ticket price increases for all Gopher fans.

Because of all that must be done to relocate both basketball and hockey fans, the 1993-94 men's basketball

season ticket sale will open earlier than usual, possibly as early as June 1. For information regarding seating upgrade options, contact the Williams Fund Office at (612) 625-1001. To get answers to questions regarding the new arena, call the U of M ticket sales office (612) 624-8080 and ask for the Williams Arena Helpline. If a Helpline agent is not available, callers may record their questions and leave their names and phone numbers.

A new era of Golden Gopher men's basketball begins next season...in a comfortable old home.

### WILLIAMS FUND from page 4

achievement. Members of its faculty are nationally renowned experts in a variety of fields. It conducts important research, the results of which can have far-reaching benefits for people throughout the world.

Men's Athletics can draw attention to the multitude of academic pursuits in which the University is engaged. As has been the case at other institutions of higher learning, people who first donate to athletics later become benefactors of nonathletic collegiate programs.

Therefore, through an increase in the number of persons giving to support Men's Athletics "the rest of the U of M is the ultimate beneficiary," Fuller notes.

Gifts to the Williams Fund through the University of Minnesota Foundation qualify as charitable contributions to an IRS-defined public charity for federal income, state income and gift tax purposes.

Those who contribute \$40 or more annually are recognized as members of the Minnesota Club. There are more than 2,500 members of this group at the present time. These supporters are invited to participate in a special way in activities that bring them in contact with Gopher coaches and administrators in the Department of Men's Athletics.

For information about the Williams Fund, contact Vince Fuller or Sue Graupmann (612/625-1001) at the Bierman Building.

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2:00 pm Georgia Tech vs. Cal St.-Fullerton  
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1:15 pm MINNESOTA vs. Georgia Tech  
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6:00 pm Georgia Tech vs. Arkansas

**TICKETS:** \$6.00 Adult/Student/Child General Admission to any Doubleheader.

Tickets available in advance at the Gopher Athletic Ticket Office or at the gate.

For Further Ticket Information, call 624-8080

## Aches & Pains



Elizabeth A. Arendt, M.D.  
Director  
University of Minnesota  
Sports Medicine  
Institute

**Q** What Exactly is a High Ankle Sprain?

**A** A "high ankle sprain" has been the common terminology for an injury that is sustained to the upper part of the ankle. It actually is a sprain of the attachment between the tibia and the fibula, i.e. the two bones of the lower leg.

This injury is different than a normal ankle sprain in that its common mechanism of injury is external rotation (turning out) of the foot on the leg. As one externally rotates the foot, the foot pushes against the fibula causing an injury to the attachments between the fibula and the tibia. Typically, a regular ankle sprain is an injury in internal rotation (turning in), where the foot rolls in underneath the leg bone.

What makes this injury unique is the time it takes to heal. In its mildest form, when a soft tissue injury is sustained with no true disruption of the ligament, treatment is to return to activities as pain permits. This injury takes longer to return to full activities than a mild form of the more typical ankle sprain. However, in the higher forms of the high ankle sprain, i.e., when part of the ligament is actually disrupted, the recommended treatment is nonweight-bearing on crutches, frequently with the ankle mobilized in a cast. This treatment is for four to six weeks. It actually returns the patient to full activities sooner than if one was to try and walk and get back to activities as pain permits. It is important to recognize this injury, which has become quite common in football and hockey, as it can be a more severe injury with a different treatment regimen than your typical ankle sprain.

### NOTE TO READERS:

The Sports Medicine Institute at the University of Minnesota Hospital offers a very informative brochure entitled "Questions & Answers About Sports Injuries." You can get a free copy by calling 612/626-3776.

If you have sports medicine related questions, please send them to:

Aches and Pains c/o Dr. Arendt,  
SPORTSNEWS, 386 N. Wabasha Street,  
Suite 1040, St. Paul, MN 55102



## Gopher Tales

By Kalley Lisam

Erik Donley, ➔  
tennis



(L to R) Voshon Leonard, Coach Clem Haskins, & Arriel McDonald ↑

**Basketball** - Minnesota's win over Northwestern at home was Clem Haskins' 100th triumph at the U of M. He recorded his 200th career victory earlier in the season when the Gophers beat Purdue.

After 15 games sophomore **Voshon Lenard** (Detroit, MI) led the team in scoring (16.5 points per game) and sophomore **Jayson Walton** (Dallas, TX) was second (at 14.2). Walton scored in double figures in 14 of the games. He also was tied with junior **Randy Carter** (Memphis, TN) in rebounds (7.3 per game).

Lenard led or tied for the team-high in scoring in nine of the games and had four 20-point games.

Junior **Arriel McDonald** (Raleigh, NC) registered eight assists and a career-high seven steals in the victory over Northwestern.

Last year the U of M ranked last in the Big Ten in free throw conversions (at 63%). Through six conference games this season, the Gophers had converted 75.5% of their free throws.

The Gophers are home against Wisconsin (February 18), Indiana (February 27), a sell-out, and Illinois (March 3).

**Wrestling** - Off to a sensational start this season (12-0-1 overall, 3-0-1 in the Big Ten), the University of Minnesota (U of M) moved up to sixth place in the national rankings of *Amateur Wrestling News*.

The previous best start for the Gophers' wrestling team was in 1971-72 when it was 10-0.

The Gophers won 12 straight matches until Northwestern tied them on January 23.



Steve Baer, ↑ wrestling

Six Gophers were ranked by *Amateur Wrestling News*. By weight class, they are: senior **Michael Marzetta** (Liberty Lake, WA), second at 158; junior **Damon Johnson** (Mustang, OK), third at 142; junior **Willy Short** (Inver Grove Heights, MN), fourth at 150; sophomore **Tim Harris** (St. Louis, MO), ninth at 126; freshman **Billy Pierce** (Minneapolis, MN), ninth at heavyweight; and sophomore **Steve Baer** (Agoura Hills, CA), tenth at 118.

The records of key team members reflected their outstanding efforts. Pierce had 30 victories, ten pins, and only two losses. Marzetta was 28-2 with 17 consecutive victories.

Harris was 26-7, and Johnson was 20-3. Short was undefeated in 14 matches, while Baer was 13-3.

Sophomore **Brett Colombini** (Redwood Valley, CA), who has wrestled at 167 and 177, was 22-5 with only one loss in 17 matches.

The Gophers had to rally to secure their tie against Northwestern. They won the last six matches.

The team's final home matches are against Ohio State (February 20) and Purdue (February 21) at Williams Arena. The Big Ten Championships will take place at Ames, Iowa on March 6 and 7.

**Track & Field** - Roy Griak's team opened the indoor season impressively, winning seven individual events at the U of M Field House. Again this year the Gophers are particularly strong in the field events.

Senior co-captain **Tyrone Minor** (St. Paul, MN) won the long jump (24'1"), sophomore **Adrian Ellis** (Racine, WI) took the triple jump (47'7 3/4"), senior All-American **Chad Goldstein** (St. Louis, MO) captured the shot put (56'10 3/4"), and junior **Matt Burns** (Cedar Rapids, IA) triumphed in the high jump (6'11").

The Gophers also finished one-two in two track events.



Adrian Ellis, ↑  
track & field

Freshman **Chris Darkins** (Houston, TX) edged Tyrone Minor in the 55 meters. Darkins' time was 6.31, while Minor's was 6.37.

In the 3,000 meters, sophomore **Jason Rathe** (Maple Grove, MN) finished first (8:31.20), and sophomore **Mark Gonzales** (La Habra, CA) was second (8:34.40).

Freshman **Jason Boon** (Cottage Grove, MN), a two-time Minnesota state 800-meter champion, easily won his first-ever collegiate race with a time of 1:56.16 in the

800 meters.

At the Badger Classic in Madison, junior **Martin Eriksson** (Stockholm, Sweden) set a new Camp Randall Memorial Sports Center record with an NCAA provisional qualifying mark of 17'8 1/2" in the pole vault.

Other winners in Madison were Goldstein in the shot put (58'1 3/4"), Minor in the long jump (24'0 3/4"), Boon in the 800 meters (1:55.02), and junior **Omar Douglas** (New Orleans, LA) in the 55 meters with a personal-best time of 6.43.

The Gold Country Snowshoe competition is at the U of M Field House on February 26. The Big Ten Indoor Championships will be at Madison on March 5-6.

**Gymnastics** - Minnesota finished second to Ohio State at the Windy City Invitational in Chicago. Twelve teams participated. Sophomore **Brian Yee** (Houston, TX) was sixth overall in the all-around, Senior **John Roethlisberger** (Afton, MN) was seventh.

Brian Ottenhoff, ➔  
gymnastics



Sophomore **Kerry Huston** (Spring, TX) tied for first place on the vault and was second on floor exercise. Junior **Brian Ottenhoff** (Kersey, CO) finished second on the horizontal bar and Yee was second on the pommel horse.

The Gophers defeated the Wisconsin-Oshkosh Titans in a dual meet at Williams Arena. They were led by All-American John Roethlisberger who won five of six events including the all-around competition. Huston won the floor exercise event and junior **Bo Haun** (Tulsa, OK) tied with Roethlisberger on the parallel bars.

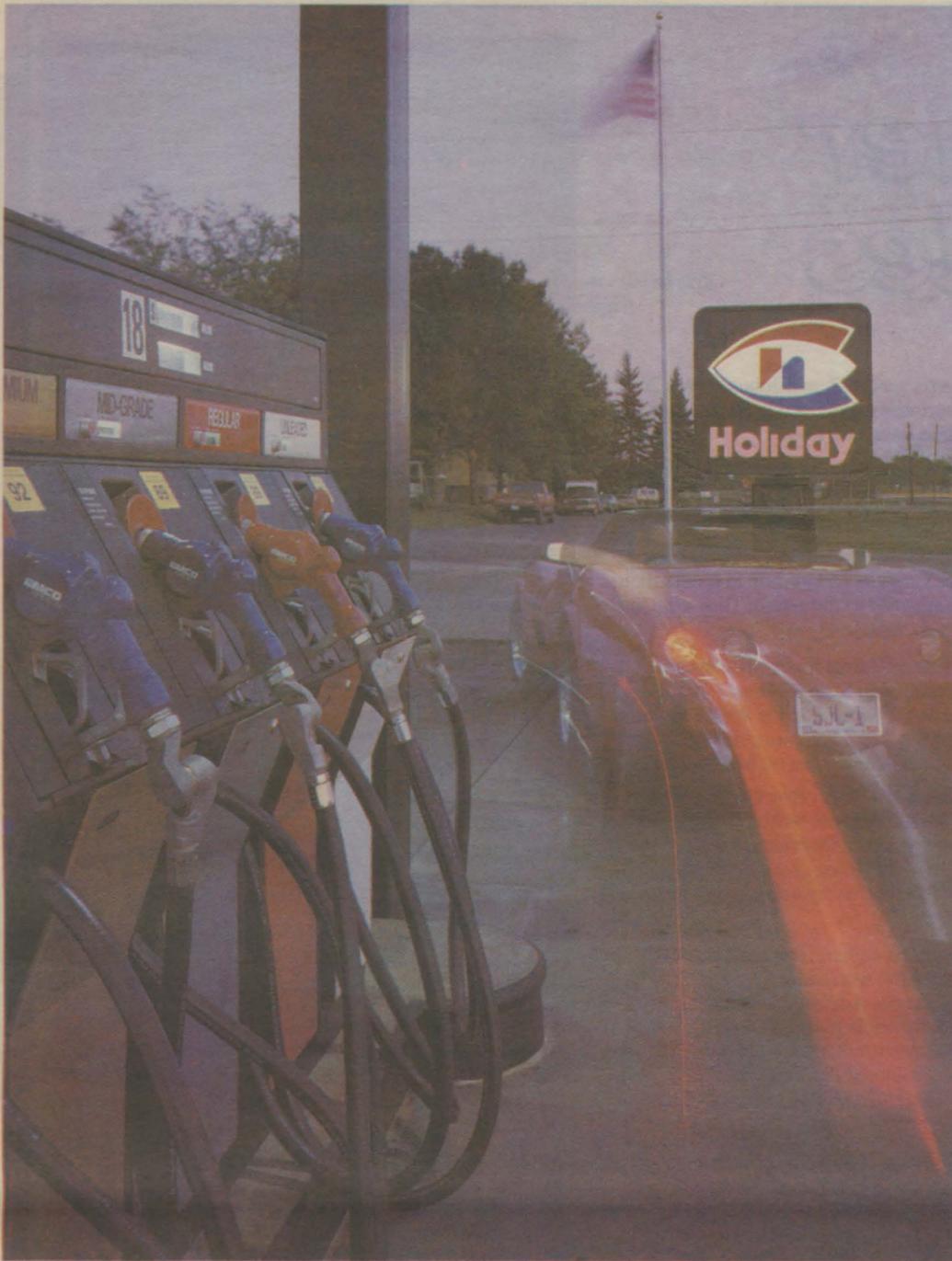
The U of M takes on Michigan State at Williams Arena on March 1. The Big Ten Championships will be held at the University of Minnesota on March 20 and 21.

**Tennis** - The U of M beat Tulsa (6-1) and the Kansas Jayhawks (4-3) at Lawrence, Kansas. Junior **Paul Pridmore** (No. Aurora, IL) and junior **Adam Krafft** (Saginaw, MI) teamed for a crucial 8-4 victory at No. 2 doubles. Sophomore **Ross Loel** (Rancho LaCosta, CA) and freshman **Erik Donley** (Duluth, MN) combined for an 8-5 win at No. 3 doubles to clinch the victory.

In early season singles competition, Senior **Rick Naumoff** (Columbus, OH) was 10-3 and senior **Mehdi Benyebka** (Oran, Algeria) 10-2.

Continued on page 8





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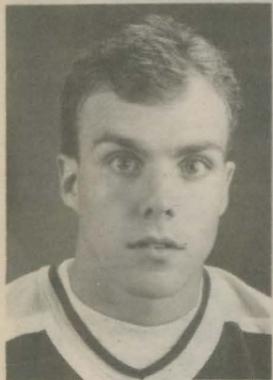
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## Gopher Tales from page 7

The Gophers, No. 23 in the ITA rankings, defeated Drake (6-0) in Minnesota's 1992-93 home opener. They compete against Iowa at the 98th Street Club on March 12.

**Hockey** - Minnesota is hoping it reverses a trend of starting the season very well and closing weakly. Junior left wing **Jeff Nielsen** (Grand Rapids, MN) is having a fine year, recording 12 goals and 14 assists through 24 games. He's a candidate for WCHA post-season honors.

All-American candidate junior **Craig Johnson** (St. Paul, MN) led the team in scoring after 24 games with 15 goals and 15 assists. His seven power play goals and two short-handed goals were tops on the team.



Dave Norqual, ↑  
hockey

Two newcomers made their debut in the games against Duluth, January 22 and 23, when injuries forced regulars out of the lineup.

Senior Dave Norqual (St. Paul, MN) and freshman Andy Brink (Bemidji, MN) played well.

Through 24 games Minnesota had a 26% success rate on the power play which was near the top in the WCHA. The Gophers' penalty killing unit was at 84%.

The Gophers play Denver University (February 19 and 20) and St. Cloud State (March 5) at Mariucci Arena.

**Swimming & Diving** - Freshman **P.J. Bogart** (Mesa, AZ) was the only Gopher to win an individual event at the Dallas Morning News Invitational held in Dallas, Texas. He

won the one-meter diving competition and finished second in the three-meter competition. The previous week the Gophers, who were ranked 13th nationally, defeated the Northwestern Wildcats in Evanston, winning all 12 events. Junior **Matt Brown** (Beaverton, OR) won the 200 individual medley and 200 breaststroke. Bogart won the one-meter and three-meter diving event.

An All-Comers meet takes place at the U of M Aquatic Center on February 19-20. The Big Ten Championships will be held in Indianapolis on March 4-6.



← Pat Bogart,  
swimming & diving

**Baseball** - The defending Big Ten Champions opened practice last month.

Former Gophers and professional baseball players **Dave Winfield** (now a Minnesota Twin), **Paul Molitor**, **Terry Steinbach**, and others were on hand for the second annual Professional Alumni Game at the Metrodome on February 2.

## Memorabilia Needed

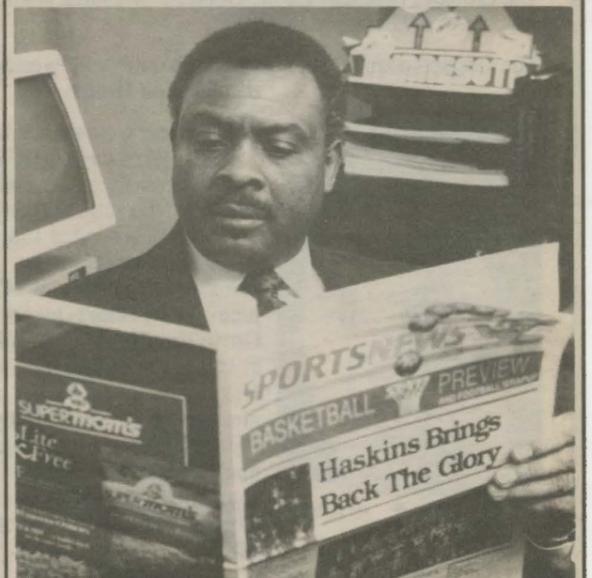
The Sports Information Office at the Bierman Building on the campus of the University of Minnesota is looking for old (1960 or before) Gopher sports programs, media guides, and yearbooks.

If you would be willing to donate any of these, please call Karen Zwach (612/625-4090) at Sports Information. Or mail items to:

Karen Zwach,  
Sports Information  
Office,  
Bierman Building,  
516 15th Avenue S.  
Minneapolis,  
Minnesota 55455.



## Before he decides on his starting lineup...



**Clem Haskins reads  
SPORTSNEWS**

# SPORTSNEWS



MARCH, 1993

VOLUME 4/NUMBER 8

**SEE INSIDE:**

- Selling the Gophers, Page 2
- Garry Bjorklund on the run, Page 3
- Gopher Baseball gets a head start, Page 6

**WIN A Chalk Line JACKET**  
(\$70.00 value)  
from **HOLIDAY PLUS & Gopher Football Tickets!**

See Page 4

## A SEASON OF EXCITEMENT

By Pat O'Regan

The interview with Chad Kolander was conducted after a lopsided win over an outmanned Penn State team. The Gophers, clearly the superior team, played an outstanding defensive game, holding Penn State to 67 points, while garnering 95 points of their own. The fans appreciated the effort.

Time and again, the sounds inside Williams Arena rose to an ear-splitting crescendo. The cheerleaders, the band, and the announcer added to the frenetic excitement of the fans. And wouldn't you know it, the Gophers executed a sparkling play in the final seconds of the game, bringing the fans to their feet, screaming. One almost thought the roof was going to come off.

Truly the transporting excitement of basketball is hard to equal in any other sport. The fans just go crazy at times.

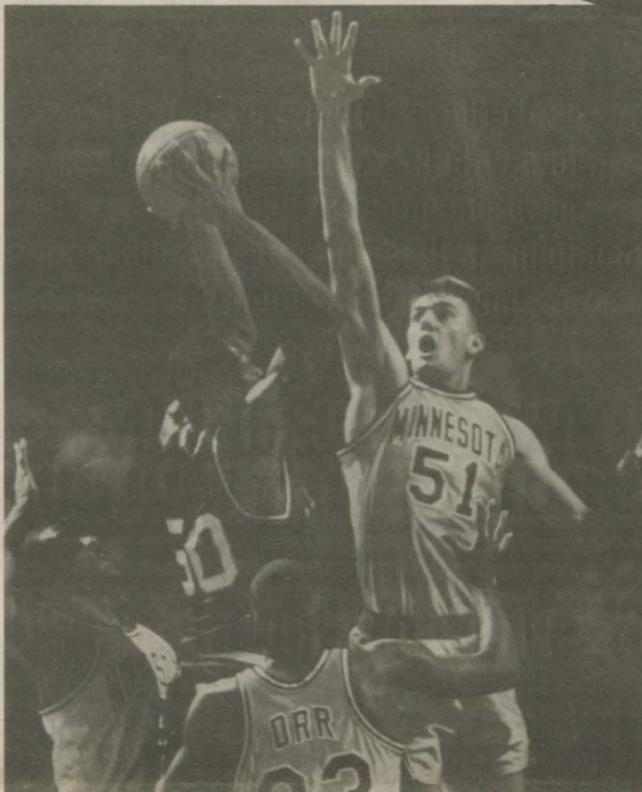
But Chad sat this one out. In practice three days earlier he had strained ligaments in his right knee. "It's getting better every day," Chad explains. "It's still a little sore. But I don't think it's as serious as the one last year." That was the left knee he injured the year before.

So while Lenard scored 22 points, Carter had 16 and Nzigamasabo had 8 points and 4 rebounds in 13 minutes, Chad, in street clothes, sat on the bench, cheered the team on and joined in the huddles.

Early on, Chad became acquainted with the wear and tear of sports. "Actually, I started out playing hockey. I played till fourth grade and then kind of outgrew my skates. I had to try a different sport, so I just picked up a basketball and started to play.... In high school I was on the football team till my sophomore year, when I quit because of blowing out my knee. I was the shortstop and pitcher in baseball."

Chad has also known the glory of sports. "My best memories of high school are the two State Tournament championships" (with Owatonna). He was named Minnesota's Mr. Basketball his senior year. "I was a pretty big deal in the home town. But when I signed with the U, there was no parade."

Indeed, the Big Ten is not high school. "I didn't know what to expect coming here. At times I felt over my head. I knew it'd be rough going against the bigger players. I'd have to put on some weight and get stronger.



Chad Kolander

At first, I got knocked around quite a bit. But I kept getting back up. Now I'm trying to make some adjustments and knock some other people around."

But, in spite of the learning experience, Chad has become a key player. "I caught some people by surprise," he says. "I like that. It takes the pressure off me.... Some of the things I do aren't flashy or exciting and I don't score many points, but I play solid defense, keeping the turnovers down, being a steady player.

"In high school I stayed around the basket. Now I try to get out. The coaches want me to play a floor position, so I shoot from out around the free-throw line. I need to be more aggressive with the ball. Coach is really on me about that. I need to look for my shot more....

"It's possible," Chad continues, "I may end up as a power forward. We've been talking about it. I wouldn't mind stepping in in that role. I'll step in and do whatever coach asks."

Most fans define a good game in terms of points scored. But not good players.

Continued on Page 6

## UNSUNG HEROES

By Pat O'Regan

Dave Norqual can speak for all the unsung heroes of sport at the U of M. He can speak for the athletes who have labored as long and as hard as the varsity regulars, but have been granted only a few fleeting moments in the spotlight. But Dave's story is not one of the sadness of unfulfilled aspirations. Rather, it is a story of joy and excitement and a life-long, driving love of his sport.

Dave is a hockey player, a defenseman, a 5'10" and 185 pound combination of quickness and strength. In four years with the hockey program, practicing with the varsity, playing with the junior varsity and working in the off-season to increase his strength and hone his skills, Dave has played in just four varsity games. He waits, as many outstanding university athletes wait, for the opportunity to play with the varsity.

Like all outstanding athletes, nature had a role in Dave's skills as a hockey player. "My Dad got me started in hockey," he says. "He played here at the U and then with the US National



Team." But nature alone isn't enough. "I started playing hockey in mites (6-8 year-olds) when I was six and have continued every year up till now."

So for him, hockey marks the onset of winter, like cold and snow for most of us.

"At St Thomas Academy we had an outstanding team in my junior year. We were picked to go to the state tournament, but lost out to Harding in the Sectionals." He talks of it as if it happened yesterday. Like anyone who takes advantage of an athletic gift, one way Dave measures his life is by the special moments hockey has given him.

And for a while hockey was his focus. "I played Junior A Hockey for two years after high school with the Rochester Mustangs and Des Moines Buccaneers. We lived with housing families and played about 60 games a season, traveling around the Midwest.

"After my second year I was selected to the all-star team that played in Switzerland. We played a tournament against the Russians, Swiss and Czechs. That was in Switzerland, which is

beautiful. It was my first time out of the US."

Okay, Dave, how did you do against the Russians? "We held our own," he explains. "But we were younger and a step or two behind them. Besides, they had been playing together for a long time and played as a team year-round." Okay.

Then came the University: "The U has a strong hockey tradition," Dave says. "I grew up watching the Gophers and dreaming of being on the ice.

"I've been practicing with the varsity for four years," Dave continues, "The rest of the time I play with the junior varsity. We play Hamline, St. Thomas, St. Olaf and other Division 3 teams. Primarily, we play before our parents, relatives and girl-friends...maybe 50 fans a game. It's a stepping-stone to the varsity...a place to improve, so I can move into the varsity if the opportunity arrives. I just waited for my chance. I figured if some guys got hurt, the coaches would need me to jump in."

And the opportunity did come, twice, briefly: "I played in one game my freshman year and three games so far this year. The game my freshman year I didn't play as well as I could... I was nervous... But the three games I played this year, I played steady and earned the respect of my teammates and coaches. Those three games made all the hard work pay off for me finally. I always knew I could play with them. I just needed the opportunity. When guys got hurt, I was ready."

A three-game payoff is enough for four years of work? He sounds sincere. But, of course,



Dave Norqual

there was more than waiting, there was hockey: "I can skate with the majority of players. That's my strength. I take the puck and go with it. I'm more a finesse player than a power-hitting defenseman. If I have a weakness, it's not staying with my man in front of the net. You have to stay with your man and not watch the puck."

At the time of the interview, Dave had returned to the junior varsity. "I'm just going to stay ready," Dave says, "and if they have to call on me again, I know I can help the team. It's a waiting game."

Yes, but in the meantime there is hockey.

And hockey has paid dividends in leadership training for Dave. "I've worked in one of Coach Woog's hockey schools. I was director. I've also put together my own hockey school for kids 8 to 11 for two weeks in the summer."

It's hard to imagine his first winter since age six without hockey. "I thought I might try out with the Saints, before they folded," Dave states. But he has other skills and goals. "I'm going to graduate with a degree in marketing. I'll probably end up in sales or advertising."

An apt field for this bright and personable young man.

*To win is important, of course, and Dave Norqual has won. To play with the varsity is important, too, and Dave has done that as well. But his hockey career at the University is testament to something that matters a lot: to be able to play the sport one loves.*

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# Selling the Gophers



Ken Buell, Gopher Ticket Office Manager

As Assistant Athletic Director for Internal Operations, Ken Buell is a key person in the interface of the public to the U of M for sports. When you purchase a single game or season ticket, you are dealing with Ken's operation. Like a businessman, he sprinkles the interview with marketing

terminology and like a good businessman, he is passionate about his product -- the Gophers teams -- and about his customers -- the Gopher fans.

"Season ticket sales for basketball and hockey," Ken begins, "were strong this season. We ended up selling 12,600 basketball and 6,000 hockey season tickets, and both sports have had strong single-game sales. We were very pleased with the sales.... Hockey sales were as good as ever. Basketball, though not a record, was very solid. Since sales have been so strong, inventories (the number of seats) have been pretty small.

"We thought the numbers of season tickets we sold for hockey and basketball were as high as we could go, without having to shut down the sale," Ken continues. "We limit the number of season tickets sold so people who have season tickets this year will be able to get theirs next year, too. We have to go as far as we can to make sure our season ticket holders are taken care of. So we thought the season ticket sales ended up about right. There was a balance of supply and demand."

The sale of tickets for the football team is, of course, a major concern. "We've set a target of 25,000 season tickets for next year," Ken states. "That's an increase of 5,000. We will work hard to let people know that this is an exciting program and we think the team is on the verge of taking off under Jim Wacker."

Ken talks animatedly about his product, the football program. "The style of play under Coach Wacker is so exciting. You never know when there is going to be another big play. Not that 'could' and 'would' make a season, but the won-loss record was not at all indicative of the team on the field.... There's been a dramatic change.... It wasn't the luckiest team, but certainly one of the most exciting. They could've won five or six games. The fans in the stands understand that.

"Now we have to carry that message to new people," Ken asserts, "convince them that they only have to sample a game to catch the excitement. Once we get them in there, they'll be back."

The sale of football season tickets will open April 1st. On that date, current season ticket holders will get their reorder billings. "Currently," Ken says, "the season ticket holder has quite a number of purchase options.... But once this program gets going, those options will shrink dramatically."

A listener comes to believe it is an exciting product and feels a little anxious about delaying the purchase.

A lot of promotions of football season tickets are forthcoming. "We want to get people who are season ticket holders to talk to their friends," Ken says. "This is a ground floor opportunity for people. New season ticket holders can get outstanding seats at this time."

Purchasing tickets is easy. For single game or season tickets, call:

624-8080 locally

or

1-800-UGOPHER long distance  
(toll free)

You can use Master Card or Visa to charge your tickets. Remember, April 1st is the first date on which you can purchase football tickets. On that date, season ticket holders will be mailed forms for renewal.

The ticket office is open M-F from 9-5.

You can use Ticketmaster (989-5151) to purchase single game tickets only.

Customer service, of course, is foremost in Ken's approach to marketing. "However people want to get their tickets," he asserts, "we will take care of them. We've been upgrading our telephone system and we've got a very sharp staff, composed primarily of university students. They'll be very helpful, talking people through the process of purchasing season tickets.

"We're good at what we do. From September 1st to the end of November, we handled 66,000 calls. We think we can compete with the best of them now and that was our goal. But we continually strive to upgrade our service."

And Ken is mindful of the others sports, too. "Baseball should have an outstanding team this year," he says. "The track team made outstanding strides last year in Big Ten competition. Wrestling is toward the top in the country. Swimming is challenging Michigan for the top spot and gymnastics is a perennial Big Ten champion. And others, too... Everywhere you look there are strong programs -- great attractions."

Tickets for these sports are general admission and can be purchased at the door. Call the sports information number (624-8080) for scheduling or other information. "Ticket revenue is the backbone of the sports programs," Ken continues. "That keeps us going. So we must operate in the interest of the student-athletes and our customers. Both are necessary. We serve both.

"Exciting things are happening here..."

Obviously, Ken Buell is not only a marketing leader for Gopher sports, he's also a fan. Like thousands of others, he's discovered how fun and enriching being a Gopher fan is. But like all fans, he first had to give it a try.

Don't miss the excitement.

## Letters



### Thanks to the Ticket Staff

I am writing to compliment the staff of the U ticket office. I called that office last week to get scheduling information on the gymnastics team and the young lady was very helpful and friendly. Whenever I have called for tickets or information, the young people have always been knowledgeable and a pleasure to deal with. Please thank them.

Helen Swenson, Minneapolis

### Please Cover the Golf Team

Why don't you do an article on the U golf team? I know it's a minor sport, without the number of fans of other sports, but doubtless many of your readers are golfers who would take an interest in an article on golfing. The U of M golf team has outstanding golfers -- always has had. So let's hear about them. Thank you.

Walt Pritchard, Inver Grove Heights

### Thanks for the Travis Article

University of Minnesota

**SPORTSNEWS**



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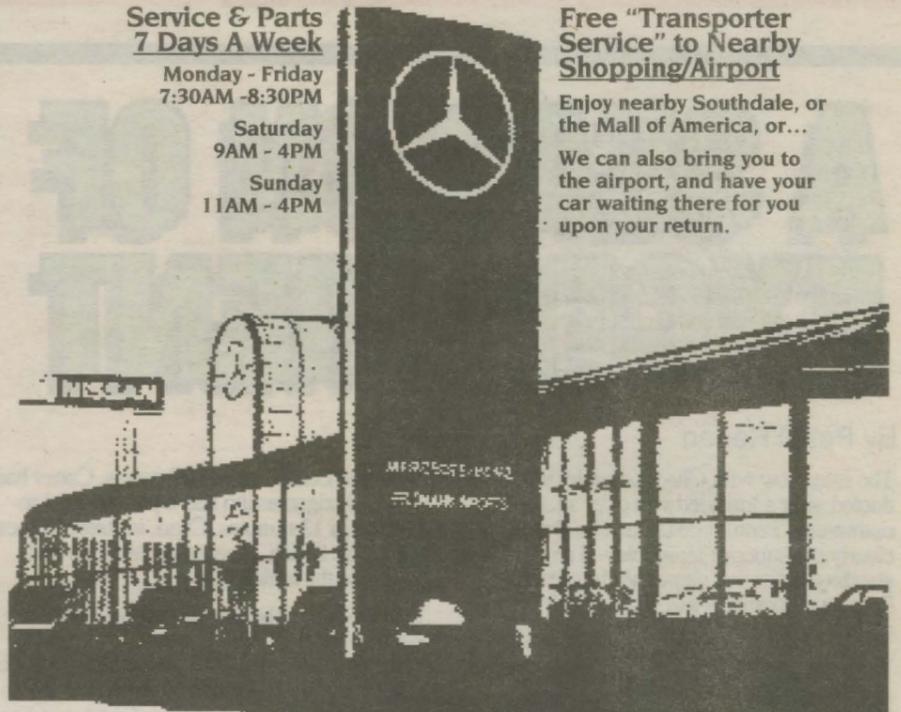
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Also look for the gymnastics team to content for the title in the National Championships in April. In the past two years, they have earned 4th place finishes in this event.

This exciting group of athletes deserves our support.

Tom Hankison, Minneapolis

### VIKINGS INCREASE TICKET PRICE 28%:

WRITER OUTRAGED—HOPES GOPHERS DON'T FOLLOW

I can't believe it. I just can't believe it. With people losing their jobs all around us and others struggling to keep their jobs, the Minnesota Vikings just sent out their season ticket orders and have raised the ticket prices 28% over last year. This is outrageous! This must be stopped!

Don't the Vikings understand what's happening in society today. Boeing will lay off 22,000 people this year. Northwest Airlines recently announced hundreds of layoffs. Governor Carlson has asked that all state employees have their salaries frozen, including teachers. President Clinton has called for a one year freeze on all federal salaries and further cuts the following years. All around us all we hear is "Hold the line on rising costs, cut spending."

And then the Vikings raise the price of their tickets from \$25 to \$32! I hope the Gophers don't follow the irresponsible actions of the Vikings.

Frank Aguilera, Minneapolis

SPORTSNEWS welcomes your views on any University of Minnesota sports related issue.

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Where Are They Now?

## For Garry Bjorklund it Was Run Run Run



By Len Levine

Not many people ever heard of Twig, Minnesota, a tiny town of about 100 residents, twenty miles north of Duluth, until its native son, distance runner Garry Bjorklund

brought it into the record books and sports pages forever.

Bjorklund, who Roy Griak, veteran University of Minnesota varsity Track and Cross Country coach once called "the finest distance runner of all time to wear a Minnesota uniform," was the 1971 NCAA six mile champion, a five-time All American and member of the 1976 U.S. Olympic Team. He holds eleven Gopher cross country and track records and still, after 23 years, is ranked number one on the All-Time Minnesota Performers list on the 3000 and 5000 meters and second on the 1500 meters.

Bjorklund got interested in running at the age of eight. "It all started as a game" he says, when he and his late father Wolner were watching a track meet on television. A woman runner had just set a world's record in the half mile and he asked his father to explain to him what a "world's record" was and how could he get one. He says his father explained it this way: "It's something that no one else has ever done like if you ran around the house 50 times. That would be a world's record." Several months later, Bjorklund remembers running in from outside and excitedly telling his father he had just set a world's record, he ran around the house 50 times.

From there it was run, run, run. It seems everywhere he went he ran. Down the road to the mailbox, to the closest neighbor who lived about a quarter mile away. Running from one house to the other, all separated by about a quarter of a mile. He remembers once promising his mother Ethel (who lives in Duluth) that he'd be home one night at 6:00 for dinner. "I was more than a mile from home when I realized it was ten minutes before we were to eat and my bike was broken. I panicked. I didn't want to be late, so I ran all the way without stopping. I got home just at 6:00. That night I had a lot of pride in myself. I knew I could do anything I set my mind to," Bjorklund says today.

His first exposure to organized sports began in eighth grade at nearby Proctor High School. He tried football, basketball and track, but says he learned quickly that "running was my sport."

He won the state high school mile championship three consecutive times, captured the state cross country title his senior year and twice won the high school cross country national championship.

Bjorklund says he will never forget the track meet against Silver Bay High School in the spring of 1968. About an hour before the meet was to begin, it began to snow. The



Garry Bjorklund (center), 1974

snow continued, at times so hard it was virtually impossible to see the opposite side of the track. The coaches were determined to have the meet so they shoveled an oval area around the parking lot and the meet went on. Bjorklund says it was that kind of interest and determination, that was the "ultimate compliment to the sport and its coaches."



Garry Bjorklund, 1974

In the ninth grade Bjorklund finished third in the mile in the state track meet and was ranked nationally in his age group. His coaches, Jim McIntire and Chuck Rantala, knew he had great potential. They continually offered encouragement.

The leanly built, serious-minded athlete was much sought after by colleges across the country. He received 250 letters with offers of scholarships. He talked to every one of the recruiters. He says Roy Griak of Minnesota approached him in a special way. He wrote Bjorklund a letter every week telling him what the Minnesota team had been doing and that he "sure hoped I would be good enough to make the Gopher team. He made me feel that if I went to Minnesota I could really do some good things for them. He made it clear that the only things he could promise me were a good, solid education, some scholarship money, and that I would be treated like his son."

On a recruiting trip to the Bjorklund house in Twig, Griak told "my parents and me that he knew I was proud of Minnesota and Twig and Minnesota is where I should go to school. That was it for me. I've never regretted my decision to attend the U of M and will be indebted to Roy Griak for all he did for me."

At the University Bjorklund ran every distance event from one mile to six miles (10,000 meters) and was a specialist in the three and six mile races.

As a freshman Bjorklund never broke stride

from his high school form. He won the individual Big Ten cross country championship and went on to finish sixth in the nationals. In the following spring's Big Ten track meet, Bjorklund added the mile and two-mile titles to his list of first-year honors.

But in January 1972, after finishing third in the indoor Wanamaker-Millrose games in New York, Bjorklund's career dimmed. After finishing the race he complained of a sharp pain in his foot. His pain kept returning throughout the season, forcing him off his normal training routine. Doctors finally diagnosed a bone growth in the instep of his foot that had torn away and irritated the tendons.

He spent the remainder of the indoor and outdoor season in a half-hearted effort to overcome the pain and recapture his championship form. He found it very hard to accept the injury and eventually had to stop running after the Big Ten outdoor track meet. He passed up the tryouts for the 1972 Olympic Games and in November 1972 he underwent an operation which left him in a cast for almost eight weeks. During his layoff, he gained 15 pounds.

The following summer Bjorklund worked with a construction crew laying pipe. His foot had regained most of its flexibility. Then, misfortune struck again.

Bjorklund was standing near the edge of a pipe trench when it suddenly collapsed and he fell to the bottom, twisting his leg and tearing the ligaments. The cave-in ended further progress.

After that accident, every time Bjorklund tried to run, his knee would swell up. He was about ready to give up running completely but his teammates and especially Griak kept encouraging him to keep at it.

His final year as a Gopher was an uphill battle. Losing was a new experience. He says it was usually "others who lost, not me." For Bjorklund it was a long road back. From the time of his foot injury he didn't train for almost two years.

When he did poorly at the National Championship his senior year, it appeared his career had ended. His close friend and teammate Don Timm asked him to help him train for the TAC National Championship. He and Timm worked hard together and Griak provided Bjorklund with a plane ticket. Bjorklund reached a new plateau in his career, running his best 10,000 meters. He was so encouraged that he continued to train and the following summer made the U.S. Olympic team.

Looking back on his running career, Bjorklund says his most thrilling moment came in the spring of 1970 when he went to the National Championship in Bakersfield, California. He remembers sitting on the grass staring at the sports legends running by him as they warmed up. "Here I was from Twig just a few months away from home in the same meet with all those stars I

had seen on television. It was unbelievable." Then, on the following night, he ran the three mile race and finished sixth. "Coach Griak was so happy with my performance that he asked me to run in the six mile event which I had never done before. He said to treat it as a good workout and run it by just hanging on to a guy named Frank Shorter. I never heard of Shorter, but kept with him for 24 times around the track, each time hearing Coach Griak yelling my times. It turned out that Shorter won and I finished third. A week later I was on a plane as a member of the U.S. team that was to compete in Europe." Two years later, Shorter won an Olympic Gold Medal in the Marathon.

Bjorklund graduated from the University in 1974 with a degree in education. He travelled for the next year and then spent six months in Colorado, training to make the U.S. National team, which he did. Over the course of the next several years he worked at a variety of odd jobs (janitor, cook, deliveryman) so that he could run. In all he was on one Olympic team, ten U.S. National and two Pan American teams.

In 1976 he opened his first of six sporting goods stores, Gary Bjorklund Sports, in Dinkytown, on the Minneapolis campus. He worked hard developing the business and even slept in the store at night. He drove all over the state selling his shoes and other sports gear. In 1983, with six stores operat-



Garry Bjorklund, his wife Rhonda McGrane and daughter Hannah, 1993

ing in the Twin Cities, he decided to sell them and "do other things." Two years later he quit running and moved to Colorado where he taught business in a suburban Denver high school and coached track and cross country at Colorado State University while finishing work on a masters degree in Education Administration. Today he is the Administrator of the Front Range Community College in Fort Collins.

Bjorklund says attending the University of Minnesota was one of the best decisions he ever made. "In every aspect of the U of M I found good, decent, honest people— great teachers dedicated to their professions." He adds, "I've worked at other schools and I'm proud of the University of Minnesota. It's an excellent institution, good in so many different ways. It opens doors for me even today out in Colorado. It's such a respected institution. I'll never forget the time when our cross country team won the Big Ten championship in 1969. When we arrived back home at the airport, the University President, Malcolm Moos, met us at the gate. Where else would that happen but at the University of Minnesota."

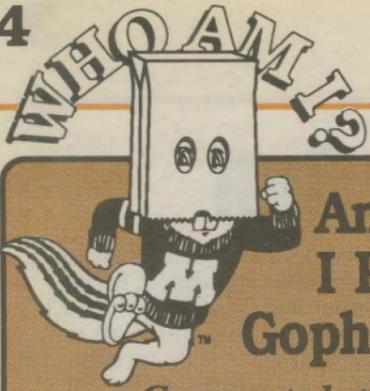
Bjorklund and his wife Rhonda McGrane live in Fort Collins, Colorado. They are the parents of a three year old daughter, Hannah and are expecting another child next month.

*Len Levine earned three varsity letters as a member of the Gopher track team and established several records, one of which (the 60-yard dash) stood for 17 years. He was the silver medal winner in the 1960 Big Ten 300-yard dash championship. Levine was President of the "M" Club in 1989.*

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## And What Part Did I Play In The Golden Gopher Tradition?

**Congratulations to Terry Rohloff of Le Sueur, MN a "Who Am I?" winner!**

**SPORTSNEWS has never had so many correct answers to a Who Am I? contest as when we ran the following:**



Wendell "Wendy" Anderson

I was born and raised on the East Side of St. Paul. My parents were hard working people with an eighth grade education. Their first language was Swedish.

I began to skate when I was eight years old and never played on inside ice until I got to Johnson High School. I began playing hockey for Johnson High when I was a junior. We won the City Championship that year and the next.

I was 16 years old when I was a high school senior and was second in scoring in the conference. I also was named to the All Conference Team in both my junior and senior years.

In 1951 I was a sophomore at the University of Minnesota and played for John Mariucci. We finished the season with a 13-13 record. The following season we won the WCHA Conference title and went to the NCAA finals where we lost to Michigan. The next year we again won the WCHA and again went to the NCAA, this time losing in the final game in sudden death.

I played on three consecutive U.S. world hockey teams, including the U.S. Olympic team that won the silver medal in Cortina, Italy. In 1957 I competed for the United States in a game held in Europe against the Swedish National team. We beat the Swedes who went on to win the world championship.

I was 25 years old and in my second year of law school at the University when I was elected to the Minnesota House of Representatives. Two years later I was elected to the Minnesota Senate. In 1970 I was elected Governor of Minnesota and became a United States Senator in 1976.

Today I practice law in Minneapolis and am a member of the University of Minnesota Board of Regents.

I was part of the "Rice Street Legend" at the now closed Washington High School in St. Paul where I played baseball and basketball. I had quite a high school sports career and was named to the All-City Basketball and All-State Baseball teams.

I enrolled at the U of M in 1953 where I played three years on the basketball and baseball teams. Baseball was my major sport and in my junior year we won our first of three national championships under that great coach Dick Siebert. That year I was named to the All-American team as a shortstop and hit 18 home runs, a Gopher record which still stands.



1957 Photo

In 1957 I signed a pro contract with the Chicago Cubs and played second base through the 1961 season. I then played for the Cleveland Indians and the Minnesota Twins until the spring of 1966.

In 1966 Marsh Ryman (U of M Athletic Director) hired me to direct the Williams Scholarship Fund and to assist basketball coach John Kundla and baseball coach Siebert.

In 1972 I became the head baseball coach at the University of Arizona where we won three national titles. I was chosen College Baseball Coach of the Year in 1976, 1980 and 1986. WHO AM I?



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## Calling the Turn with Jimmy Byrne

Gopher baseball coach John Anderson is a "party crasher," too.



Darren Grass



Bill Mobilia



Mark Meria

Right at the peak of the intercollegiate winter sports schedule, he staged the second annual Pro-Alumni baseball game at the Metrodome.

The fact that over 5,400 fans, paying \$5 or \$6 per ticket, came to this game is proof positive of local interest in Gopher baseball.

Those attending saw intercollegiate baseball history continue in the making. It started with indoor practices under the late coaches Frank McCormick and Dick Siebert.

Some of those at the February alumni game, including pro scouts Angelo Giuliani and George Brophy, remember when the Gophers held winter and early spring practices in the old Indoor Sports Building on University Avenue just east of sorority and fraternity row.

The building was big and high enough. But the dust from the dirt floors was hard to swallow in more ways than one. The dim lighting made some experts wonder if it was all worthwhile.

Before moving into the Indoor Sports Building, Gopher baseball teams used parts of the original Williams Arena for indoor practices. That had similar dust and light problems.

But it was the beginning of the Gophers' effort to try and beat the Minnesota outdoor elements. The latest chapter in that continuing

history unfolded with last month's Pro-Varsity exhibition game.

Certainly no other college in the Big Ten plus Penn State has access to a baseball facility to equal the Metrodome. It's doubtful that any Division I baseball team in the entire northern zone does, either.

Then, when alumni from the major leagues return to play the baseball varsity team in an exhibition, that just puts whipped cream on the pumpkin pie.

Baseball professionals Paul Molitor, Terry Steinbach, J.T. Bruett, Denny Neagle, Tim McIntosh, Dan Wilson and Bryan Hickerson played for the Gopher alumni team. And they played in their club uniforms.

Molitor even wore his new Toronto Blue Jays uniform. It seemed to fit pretty well.

Although they did not see action on the field, new Twin Dave Winfield and Atlanta Brave Greg Olson were also in uniform. Olson is still recovering from a leg injury suffered last season. Winfield was held out of the lineup, reportedly upon request from the Twins front office.

But Winfield coached at third base for the professionals, who were managed by George Thomas. Of course, Thomas served as Gopher head coach (1979 - 81) after Siebert and before Anderson.

Winfield flashed the signs to the batters with nothing but grins. It was his first chance to feel at home in the Metrodome, and he acted the part very well.

Dave has the showman's know-how, if he doesn't overdo it. He should attract a good share of fans to Minnesota Twins games.

"The Gophers look like they'll do all right this season," remarked Brophy. "They're strong up the middle."

Up the middle are Darren Grass, catcher, Mark Merila and Bill Mobilia at second and short, respectively, and Ryan Lefebvre in centerfield.

The Pro-Alumni game was a night of Minnesota college baseball to remember.

There have been other signs for more good to come. Not only at the Met, but at the grand baseball facilities

now on the University of Minnesota campus.

Another successful University of Minnesota baseball event at the Metrodome was the Oscar Mayer Classic, March 5-7. The Classic attracted outstanding teams from Georgia Tech, Cal State-Fullerton and Arkansas.

Thus, the intercollegiate baseball program continues to soar at Minnesota. And the weather has been stymied.

Move over you college baseball players from Florida, California, Arizona, Texas, etc. The Gophers need room.

*Jim Byrne began writing for the Minneapolis Star in 1936. His 43-year sports reporting career started with sailing and expanded to include a wide range of Minnesota sports at the high school, college, and professional levels.*

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**1993 GOLDEN GOPHER MARCH ACROSS MINNESOTA**  
University of Minnesota Athletic Director McKinley Boston and  
Coaches Jim Wacker, Clem Haskins, Doug Woog and John Anderson

**NORTHERN REGION**

McKinley Boston, Baseball Coach John Anderson & Hockey Coach Doug Woog  
Date: Monday, March 29 and Tuesday, March 30

<u>Monday, March 29</u>	<u>Tuesday, March 30</u>
AM: Minneapolis	AM: Grand Rapids
Noon: Aitkin	Noon: Brainerd
PM: Hibbing	

**SOUTHERN REGION**

McKinley Boston and Football Coach Jim Wacker  
Date: Tuesday, April 27 and Wednesday, April 28

<u>Tuesday, April 27</u>	<u>Wednesday, April 28</u>
AM: Minneapolis	AM: Waseca
NOON: Red Wing	Mid-Morning: Faribault
PM: Winona	Noon: New Prague

**WESTERN REGION**

McKinley Boston & Basketball Coach Clem Haskins  
Date: Tuesday, June 15 and Wednesday, June 16

<u>Tuesday, June 15</u>	<u>Wednesday, June 16</u>
AM: St. Paul	AM: Redwood Falls
Noon: Willmar	Noon: New Ulm
PM: Montevideo	

## Gopher Staff on the Road Across Minnesota Again

The University of Minnesota Athletic Department has announced the sites for the 1993 "Golden Gopher March Across Minnesota". This year, Athletic Director McKinley Boston and Head Coaches Jim Wacker, Clem Haskins, Doug Woog and John Anderson will travel



Men's Athletic Director  
McKinley Boston

to three regions of Minnesota to promote Gopher Athletics and the 1993 Football Season.

Coordinated in conjunction with the Minnesota News Network and their radio stations, the Gopher caravan will visit 15 cities in three separate tours. Each



Head Football Coach  
Jim Wacker

location is in the process of completing the details of the specific event.

The public is invited to attend each event. Special promotions will take place surrounding each tour stop, so watch for further information or call 612/625-4838 for details about a visit to your community.



Head Baseball Coach  
John Anderson

## Aches & Pains



Lars  
Engebretsen,  
M.D., Ph.D.  
University of  
Minnesota

**Q** I am a 58 year old male who enjoys playing golf in the winter on my business trips to California. I get the chance to play about once a week. Last summer I played three times a week in Minneapolis. I have never had any aches in my left shoulder or left wrist until recently. What can be causing this?

**A** The aches in your left shoulder may have several causes. Repeated use of the shoulder muscles with the arm at or above shoulder level or repeated outward rotation may cause inflammation of one of the four small muscles that rotate your upper arm. The pain may also be caused by a bursa in the shoulder which is located between your muscle and shoulder bone. This bursa might get irritated when the arm is lifted upwards and outwards as when you are playing golf. If the aches and inflammation continue, this may lead to small tears in the muscle situated underneath the bony process causing impaired range of motion and eventually decreased muscle strength, especially for outward rotation. In a chronic condition the tissues thicken and become inelastic. The pain takes on a nagging quality and can occur even at rest and often at night.

Several preventive measures can be used to avoid this condition. Proper warm-up exercises followed by flexibility training will usually take care of the problem. As treatment, your doctor may prescribe anti-inflammatory medications, physical therapy, and may inject the joint during periods of increased pain.

Pain in the wrist may be radiating pain from your shoulder, or it may be caused by inflammation of the inner epicondyle of the elbow, especially during golf season. A right handed golfer may well suffer from what is called "tennis elbow" in the leading left elbow, and "golfer's elbow" in the following right elbow. Flexing the hands downwards at the wrist joint against resistance also causes pain.

Again, correct playing and working techniques are the most important preventive measures. Sometimes a forearm brace or a heat retainer can be used as a means of dissipating the forces outwards. Treat with ice and so-called "active rest" (i.e., rest the injured part and avoid movements which trigger pain, but continue with conditioning activities such as running or cycling). Apply local heat and use a heat retainer after a couple of days, when the injury is no longer in the acute stage. Treat with ice, massage, perhaps alternating with heat treatment. Try taping the wrist to support the elbow joint and reduce strain. Improve strength, stamina and mobility by exercising when pain and inflammation are in control. The doctor may prescribe anti-inflammatory medication, physical therapy, and in persistent cases where pain interferes with exercise program, administer local steroid injections.

A genuine "golfer's elbow" often heals spontaneously and the prognosis is generally good. However, the symptoms can persist for anywhere from a couple of weeks to a couple of years, especially if the athlete continues to strain the arm. The strenuous activity can be resumed when the arm is fully mobile, has regained normal strength and is pain-free.

Our guest columnist is Dr. Lars Engebretsen, who has recently joined the faculty in the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery at the University of Minnesota. Dr. Engebretsen comes to the University from Norway, where he was a practicing orthopaedic surgeon, as well as a past President of the Norwegian Sports Medicine Society and Scandinavian Sports Medicine Society. He will continue to be very active in sports medicine issues in both Europe and the United States. Among Dr. Engebretsen's duties at the University will be to provide orthopaedic coverage for some of the University sports teams, including the hockey team.

If you have sports medicine related questions, please send them to:

Aches and Pains c/o Dr. Arendt,  
SPORTSNEWS, 386 N. Wabasha Street,  
Suite 1040, St. Paul, MN 55102



### 1993 Big Ten Men's Gymnastics Championship

*Hosted by the University of Minnesota*  
March 20-21, 1993

The Big Ten shows off some of its finest at the annual conference championship. The 1993 championships will feature Olympian and two-time NCAA all-around champion John Roethlisberger from the University of Minnesota as he competes in his final Big Ten competition.

The Big Ten team title and individual crowns will be closely contested with eight All-Americans returning. Four teams are ranked in the nation's top 10 with all seven teams ranked in the top 20. In addition, several gymnasts are highly rated in the nation on an individual event basis.

Come on out and be a part of the action!  
*Limited tickets available.*



1993 Big Ten Men's Gymnastics Championship	Amount
<b>All Session Pass</b>	
— Adults @ \$12.00 each	
— U Students/Children @ \$ 8.00 each	
<b>Saturday, March 20, 7:30 pm-Team Competition</b>	
— Adults @ \$6.00 each	
— U Students/Children @ \$4.00 each	
<b>Sunday, March 21, Noon-Compulsory All-Around</b>	
— All Ages @ \$3.00 each	
<b>Sunday, March 21, 6:00 pm-Individual Event Finals</b>	
— Adults @ \$6.00 each	
— U Students/Children @ \$4.00 each	
<b>ALL SEATS ARE GENERAL ADMISSION</b>	
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The Bierman Building is located in Dinkytown at 516-15th Avenue Southeast.

## Excitement from page 1

"Everything in the game counts," Chad asserts, "playing good defense, keeping my man to low scoring, rebounds, points, steals, passing the ball, everything."



Chad Kolander

How does he compensate for a lack of leaping ability? "I just try to put a body on them. They can't jump when your body is draped all over them."

Basketball is a rough sport. Watching from courtside, one appreciates how physical Big

Ten basketball is. The fighting for rebounds, the blocking out under the basket, the fierce and tenacious defense looks very rough, indeed. (Chad has an inch-long scar running down along the outer edge of his left eye. A souvenir of a basketball game?) And every game, Chad says, he plays against tough opponents, rattling off a long list of names.

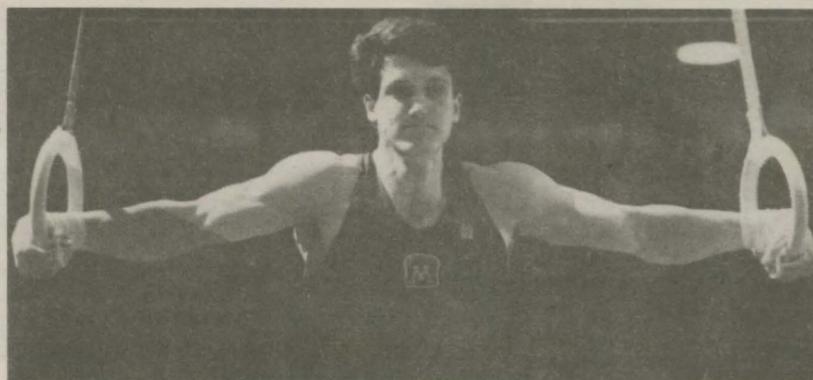
He speaks of himself in this thought: "We don't have the reputation of other parts of the country for basketball here in Minnesota. But every once in a while someone comes along..."

Come along, he did. And before long he'll be back on court, battling some tough defender, getting points and rebounds, playing tough defense. Along with his teammates, he'll be generating enough excitement to raise the roof off the old place.

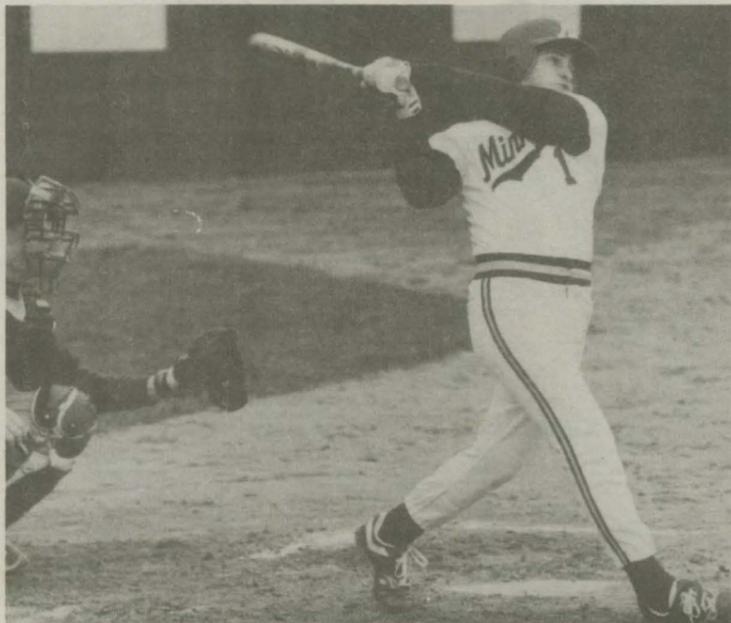


## Gopher Tales

By Kalley Lisam



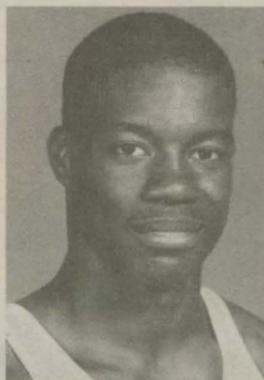
John Roethlisberger, gymnastics



Adam Sobocienski, baseball

### Track & Field --

The Gophers won eight of 14 events in a dual meet against Big Ten rival Iowa in Iowa City February 20th. Those capturing individual events for the Gophers were: seniors **Mark Narveson** (Mankato, MN) in the mile (4:11.1) and **Doug Milkowski** (Stevens Point, WI) in the 3,000 meters (8:27.2), juniors **Norris Williams** (Milwaukee, WI) in the 600 meters (1:21.76), **Omar Douglas** (New Orleans, LA) in the 55 meters (6.48), and **Matt Burns** (Cedar Rapids, IA) in the high jump (7-0 1/2), and freshmen **Mark Murdock** (Grand Forks, ND) in the shot put (52-5), **Dan Pihlstrom**



Omar Douglas, ↑ track & field

(New Brighton, MN) in the 800 meters (1:56.44), and **Chip Mosely** (Bloomington, IL) in the triple jump (45-11 1/4).

**Hockey** -- The Gophers hockey team had its finest offensive performance of the year February 19-20, scoring 13 goals in two victories over the Denver Pioneers (3-0 & 10-3), including four goals in the third period of the 10-3 win.

The Gophers had not scored more than 10 goals in a series since the opening weekend of the season, when they split a pair of games with North Dakota 4-8, 8-4. The 10-3 win was the largest offensive output by the Gophers since a 10-1 win at North Dakota last March. The 13 goals were split among 10 players.

After 32 games, All-American candidate junior **Craig Johnson** (St Paul, MN) leads the Gophers in scoring with 18 goals and 19 assists. In the victories over Denver, Johnson played on a line with sophomore **Darby Hendrickson** (Richfield, MN) and freshman **Andy Brink** (Bemidji, MN) that has great speed and explosiveness. Junior left wing **Jeff Nielsen** (Grand Rapids, MN)

is having an outstanding year with 18 goals and 15 assists. He is second on the team in scoring and tied for the lead in goals. Other Gopher scoring leaders are senior **Travis Richards** (Crystal, MN) with 27 points, freshman **Brian Bonin** (White Bear Lake, MN) with 25 points, junior **Joe Dziedzic** (Minneapolis, MN) with 24 points.

Senior **Tom Newman** (Blaine, MN) is the leading goaltender with a 10-4-2 record and a 3.40 GAA.

**Gymnastics** -- The University of Minnesota gymnastics team finished second at the 1993 UCLA/Paul Mitchell Invitational with

277.70 points. The second-ranked Gophers were led by senior **John Roethlisberger** (Afton, MN). Roethlisberger scored 9.70 on the floor exercise and 9.55 on the parallel bars. He won the pommel horse event with a score of 9.75.

Sophomore **Kerry Huston** (Spring, TX) continues to perform well, posting season highs on two events, the high bar (9.55) and in the all-around competition (56.70).

Sophomore **Brian Yee** (Houston, TX) turned in a season-high performance in the floor exercise (9.65) as he finished third in the event.

**Wrestling** -- The Gopher wrestling squad closed out the regular season with a 21-3-1 record, the most

successful regular season in school history. The 21 victories establish a school single-season record for victories. The team won its first 12 matches -- the best start ever.

Going into the Big Ten Championships, the Gophers have seven of their 10 starters in the top 20 nationally, including: senior **Michael Marzetta** (Liberty Lake, WA) is second

at 158 pounds; junior **Willy Short** (Inver Grove Heights, MN), third at 150; freshman **Billy Pierce** (Minneapolis, MN), fifth at heavyweight; junior **Brad Gibson** (Chokio, MN), seventh at 177; sophomore **Brett Colombini** (Redwood Valley, CA), 13th at 167; sophomore **Tim Harris** (St Louis, MO), 11th at 126; and sophomore **Steve Baer** (Agoura Hills, CA), 16th at 118.

Pierce leads the Gophers with 39 victories and 12 pins in 41 matches. Marzetta is 37-5. Short is 22-1. Colombini is 33- 3. Harris is 34-11 and Gibson is 18-3.

The NCAA Championships will be held March 18-20 at Ames, Iowa.

**Tennis** -- The Gophers, ranked No. 23, took a 4-1 dual record into the University of Washington Invitational in Seattle February 26.

The Gophers have been led by senior **Rick Naumoff** (Columbus, OH). Naumoff is 19-6. He won the singles championship at the Spartan Invitational (the Big Ten Indoors) in January at East Lansing, Michigan.

Senior **Mehdi Benyebka** (Oran, Algeria) has a 13-3 singles record and has combined with three doubles partners for a 4-1 doubles record. Senior **Dominic Roderiguez** has stepped in and has contributed a 7-2 singles record.

**Swimming** -- The NCAA Swimming and Diving Championships are set for March 25-27 at Indianapolis, Indiana.

Rick Naumoff, tennis

**Baseball** -- After the first six non-conference games, the Gopher baseball team, which is ranked No. 20 nationally, is 4-2.

The Gophers, who batted .320 last season as a team, are hitting .315. Six of the Gophers' nine regulars are batting over .300.

All-American candidate junior **Mark Merila** (Plymouth, MN) leads the Gophers with 11 hits and a .458 batting average.

Designated hitter senior **Adam Sobocienski** (Barrington, IL), who batted .350 with 31 RBIs in 42 games in '92, leads the Gophers with 12 RBIs.

**Basketball** -- With five games remaining, sophomore **Voshon Lenard** (Detroit, MI) is leading the Gophers in scoring at 17.0 points a game. He has scored in double figures in 17 games and has led or tied for the team-high in scoring in 13 games. He has eight 20-point games to his credit, which includes a 32-point effort against Iowa on February 13.

Sophomore **Jayson Walton** (Dallas, TX) is second-high scorer at 13.3 point a game, followed by junior **Randy Carter** (Memphis, TN) at 11.6, junior **Arriel McDonald** (Raleigh, NC) at 10.3, and sophomore **Chad Kolander** (Owatonna, MN) at 7.0.

The Gophers fell to Indiana on January 27 by a score of 61- 57. Indiana leads the all-time series with Minnesota 79-



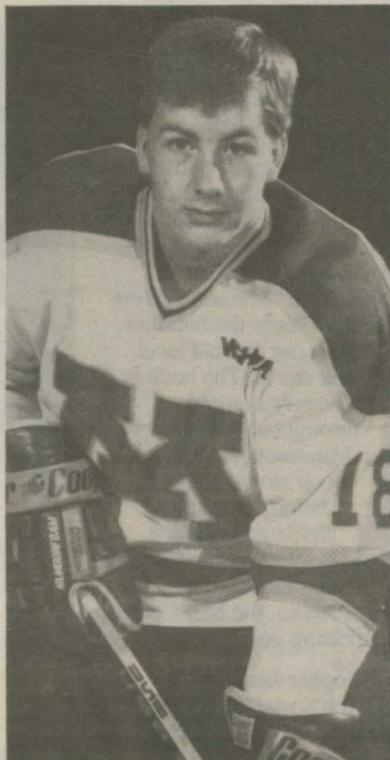
Gopher Basketball Coach, Ozzie Cowles, 1950

48, but the Gophers hold a 32-29 edge in games at Minneapolis. Indiana has won 18 of the past 21 games.

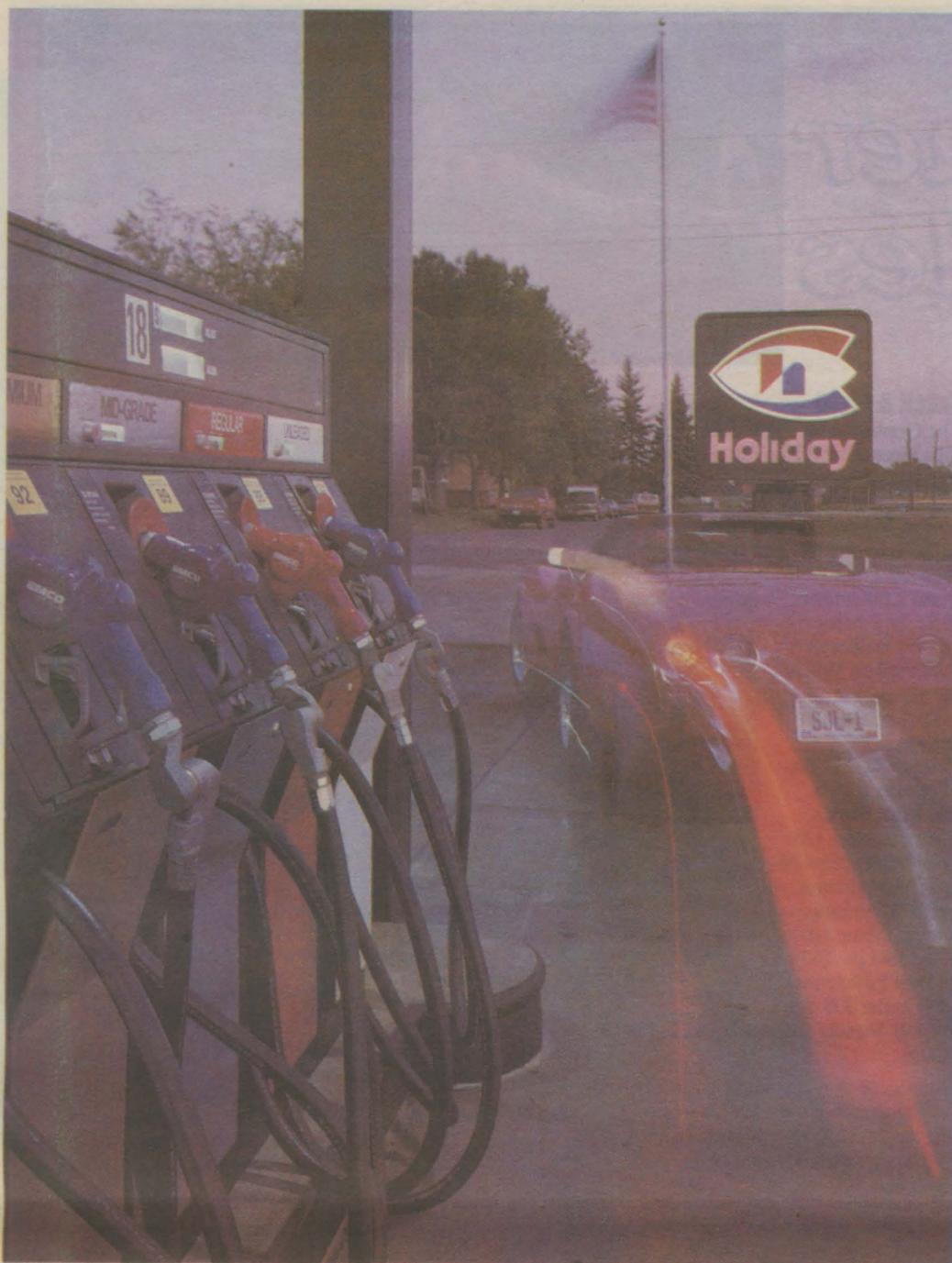
The Gophers record at Williams Arena is 60-16 over the past four-plus seasons.

In his seventh season as head coach at the U, **Clem Haskins** has directed the Gophers to post-season play in three of the past four seasons. His record at Minnesota is 103-98, including 84-61 the past four-plus seasons.

**Ozzie Cowles**, the U of M head men's basketball coach from 1948-1959, was honored during a ceremony prior to the Minnesota vs Indiana game at Williams Arena. During the ceremony, the Gophers locker room was named in his honor. Cowles compiled an overall record of 147-93 for a .613 winning percentage.



Andy Brink, hockey



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## Goldy Begins New Career:

### *Writes Book Covering 100 Years of Gopher Hockey*

by Randi Levine

When the new Mariucci hockey arena is completed next fall, the hockey Gophers will begin a new era and Goldy the Hockey Gopher mascot will begin a new career.

Goldy a.k.a. Ross Bernstein decided to put aside his pranks and antics after the 1991-92 season in order to research and write a comprehensive book on U of M hockey, entitled "Gopher Hockey by the Hockey Gopher." The book is a concise collection of quotes, innuendos, facts and funny stories, including a complete 100-year history of Gopher hockey by world renowned hockey historian, Donald M. Clark.

"I don't claim to be an author in the book, only a rodent," says Bernstein, a 23-year-old U of M graduate in French/International Business, "but when my tenure as the 'rodent' ended, I realized I could provide fans with a unique perspective on life behind the scenes." In addition to being Goldy, Bernstein also played on the Gophers Junior Varsity hockey team and is an avid Gopher Hockey fan.

After spending the summer of 1992 conducting hundreds of interviews with players, coaches, supporters, old-timers, celebrities, fans and media types, a truly fascinating book was born. Published and written by Bernstein, "Gopher Hockey" edited by Star Tribune writer John

Gilbert, contains more than 200 interviews and 100 pictures, as well as final farewells to the "Old Barn," as Mariucci Arena was often called.

While the book is full of anecdotes about such Gopher greats as Woog, Nanne, Sonmor, Brooks, Broten and Antonovich, its main theme revolves around the late John Mariucci, the legendary saint of Minnesota hockey. "It's dedicated to him and there are many tributes, testimonials, funny stories and fond memories of him in the book," says Ross.

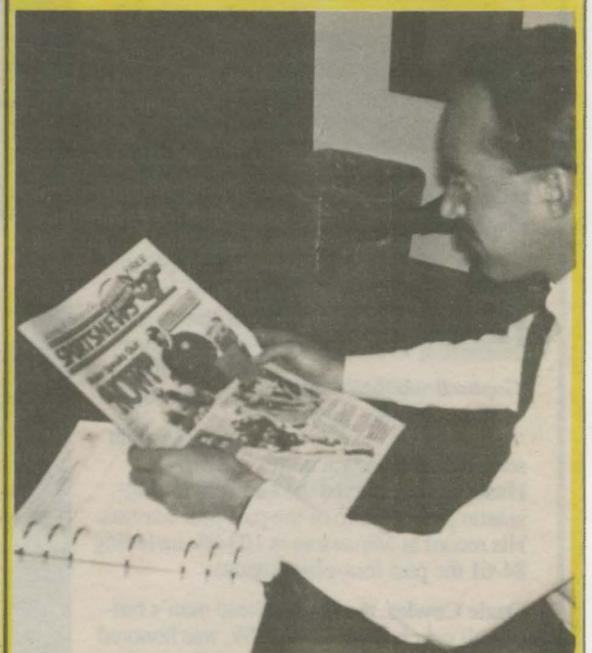
"Gopher Hockey" is selling so well, Bernstein said, that his initial edition of 2,500 has already gone into a second printing. It was also one of the "Minnesota Best Sellers" over the holidays, selling out at most local book stores. The book is currently available throughout the state of Minnesota at all major book stores such as B. Dalton, Barnes and Noble and Walden Books and can also be purchased at

Mariucci Arena, the Met Center and most major sporting goods stores.

Bernstein enthusiastically says, "Gopher fans past, present, and future will find the book nostalgic, humorous and extremely interesting. It is full of great stories and fascinating trivia facts that can be appreciated by both hockey fans and even people who have never attended a hockey game. I know people will enjoy reading it as much as I enjoyed writing it."

According to North Star and Gopher All-American Neal Broten, "Gopher Hockey" is "an awesome idea that was long overdue...it's full of great stories...I really enjoyed reading about my old buddies."

### When he wants to learn about Gopher Sports...



**Tim Oliver,  
"M" Club President,  
reads SPORTSNEWS**



# SPORTSNEWS

MAY, 1993

VOLUME 4/NUMBER 9

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**Tickets!**  
See Page 4

## Gophers Triumph in NIT Finale Cause for Celebration

The Gophers basketball team had plenty of reasons to feel triumphant following its 62-61 victory over the Hoyas of Georgetown in the NIT finals at Madison Square Garden in New York. Not only did they win the championships, the first national title in basketball for a Minnesota team, but the Hoyas made it interesting -- if not frightening.

With the score 62-51, the Hoyas scored the last 10 points of the game. And, inside the last seven seconds, they missed two potentially game-winning shots. It wasn't until Voshon Lenard intercepted an inbound pass with .4 second left that MN clinched the victory.

And there was further cause for celebration. The victory gave the Gophers a measure of vindication for being snubbed by the NCAA Selection Committee for post-season play. "Our number one objective in this tournament," said senior Nate Tubbs, "was to gain some respect and prestige for the program. We felt we did that by winning the tournament."

"This makes up for it," Randy Carter said about the snub. "I think it makes the NCAA people say, 'Maybe we should have given these guys a more serious look.'"

No doubt the fans would agree.

Arriel McDonald scored a game-high 20 points. Voshon Lenard had 17 and was named tournament MVP. McDonald and Lenard were named to the all-NIT team.

Coach Haskins summed up the feeling this way: "Sure we'd have liked to have won by 20, 25 points. But the great thing...a year from now it's going to say 'Minnesota - NIT champs.'"

Congratulations, champs.

## RUNNING

# FOR THE GOPHERS

By Pat O'Regan

First let's establish that Doug Milkowski is different than you and me. As he recalls, when he was a youngster he could run and run and run and never really get tired. And later, as a freshman at Stevens Point, Wisconsin High School, one day he decided to give track a try, entered the mile run in a track meet and ran a five minute mile. That's without training. It's safe to say that most high school distance runners train for four years and never manage to run a five minute mile.

As Doug told it: "I'd have been able to start in basketball throughout high school. So switching to track was one of the tougher decisions I had to make for athletics. But I thought I'd have more success in track. Our junior high record in the mile was 4:49. I figured I'd get that without having to train hard." He did. In his freshman year, he ran a 4:39 mile.

Doug Milkowski



And since he was training, he got better. "As a sophomore, I was the team's number two runner in cross-country and I ended up 19th in the state meet. That changed my whole thinking about running. I thought I could be a little better..." Indeed. In his senior year, he was the state cross-country champ.

In his senior year at the U, Doug has run with the Gopher cross-country team for four years and is in his final season with the track and field team. On the track, he focuses on the 3000 (almost two miles) and 5000 (more than three miles) indoors and the steeplechase outdoors, though he has run the mile indoors and the 10000 (more than six miles) outdoors as well.

With the outdoor season upon us, Doug has his mind on the steeplechase. For the uninitiated, the steeplechase is an outdoor race of 3000 meters or seven laps of the track with four hurdles and a water-

jump in each lap. It is reputed to be one of the most grueling races run on a track, breaking the spirit of many a runner unable to negotiate the last hurdle in a frenzied dash to the tape. And Doug will charge that last hurdle with a goal in mind: "My PR (personal record) is 9:13. This year I'd like to go under nine minutes. With an 8:55, I could qualify for the Nationals."

To run that kind of time, of course, requires many hours of training, running long distances and running intervals on a track. But the image of the solitary, single-minded long distance runner doesn't fit Doug -- or the Gopher track and field team, either, for that matter. It's a team sport. As Doug puts it: "I'm really good when there's an organized practice. But when I'm on my own, I have a motivational problem."

He keeps coming back to the team. "Most of the distance runners on the team have been running real well. We've been having good runs along River Road." (They run in all kinds of weather: "We just have to deal with that.") "We'll run 10 miles, with Coach Griak driving along with us, timing the runs. We concentrate on keeping everyone

Continued on Page 6

## MASTERING SIX EVENTS

baseball team for a year, and was a diver for two years. "The diving helped me," he said, "with my twisting in the air-spins in gymnastics."

"When I was seven years old, my mom was looking for something for my sister and me to do, because we had just moved to Houston. One day I went with her to pick up my sister, who was starting gymnastics. I started doing forward rolls on the mat and messing with the rings and a coach there saw me and told my mom that I should try gymnastics. I told my mom that's a girl's sport...I don't want to do that...but she got me to try it. So I did...and I was third in the state my first year."

Thus began Kerry Huston's gymnastics career. He continued in gymnastics "for the experience, fun and enjoyment of it" till age 13. Then, as he said, "I realized to be successful would require a lot of discipline and devotion." So he trained all through high school with a gymnastics club in Houston, competing throughout the state and country.

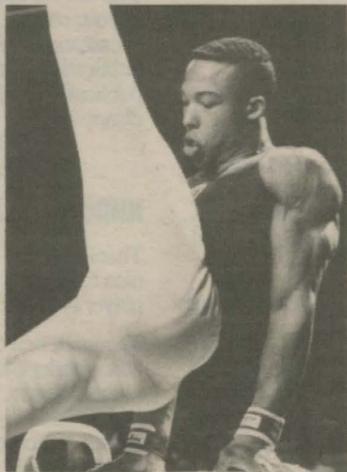
At the same time, Kerry starred on the high school track team (10.68 in 100 m and a triple jump of 44-8) for a year, played on the

The gymnastics training paid off. For six years he was on the National Junior Team and after that one year was devoted to senior development.

In '91, the same year he became a freshman at the U of M, Kerry became the youngest member of the Senior National Team. That year he was the Senior National and Olympic Festival champion in the floor exercise.

As to why he came to the U of M, Kerry said, "I liked the coaching a lot here. The gymnastics program here was also very committed and successful. I wanted to be a part of that."

But it wasn't easy. "The gymnastics is much more demanding here," Kerry asserted. "I've always been demanding of myself, but here the coaches add to it."



Kerry Huston

But that, too, paid off. Kerry was freshman gymnast of the year in the Big Ten and fourth in the all-around competition in the Big Ten Championships. Misfortune struck at the end of the year, when illness kept him out of the NCAA Championships.

Ninety-two, of course, was an Olympic year and Kerry tried to make the team. "I fell a little bit short," he said, without a hint of resignation.

In a gymnastics meet six events are contested: pommel horse, still rings, vault, parallel bars, horizontal bar and floor exercise. Six athletes from each team compete in each event, with the top five scores counting. Individual awards are given to the gymnasts with the highest score in each event. The all-around award goes to the athlete with the highest total score for the six events. And a team award goes to the team with the highest total score for all individuals and events (30 total scores).

Kerry competes for the all-around title and is especially strong in the floor exercise. "It's both an individual and a team sport," he said. "Your individual performance helps the team score. And the team gives you the support you need for your individual effort."

The gymnastics team is a perennial Big Ten powerhouse. As strong as ever in '93, it is looking to improve upon its fourth place finishes at the National Championships of the past two years. Leading the way are upperclassmen John Roethlisberger and Rob Hanson, with Brian Yee and Kerry strong and maturing performers. Along with John, Kerry is one of the top 12 all-around performers in the country.

Nebraska is currently ranked first in the na-

tion. But, as Kerry said, "Our team has the potential to beat them. They are not a stronger team, and we're still improving."

Early in the season, Kerry made a rapid recovery from an injury. He had an outstanding meet against Nebraska, scoring 56.25 in the all-around, for an average of 9.375 (10 possible) per event.

The injury, by the way, came when he hit his mouth on the horizontal bar. As he described it, "I crashed pretty bad. I had six stitches in my lips, a fractured bone across the top of my mouth, and a broken tooth."

It took some mental as well as physical healing, but, as Kerry said, "When I got focused again, it was okay."

Fan support is important to Kerry. "I would definitely like to see a strong turn-out from the fans. Gymnastics isn't well-recognized in this country yet..." But being champions year-in and year-out in the Big Ten can't hurt. As Coach Roethlisberger said, "There is no question that the Big Ten is the premier gymnastics conference in the country. We have three or four teams in the top 10 in the country every year and that is no different this season with the likes of Ohio State, Penn State and Minnesota."

The Gopher gymnastics team will be trying to continue as one of the top teams in the country.

Kerry Huston is superlative in the floor exercise, but watch him as well on the horizontal bar. He possesses one of the most difficult dismounts in the country -- the triple back.

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# Promoting the Gophers



Leanne Baylor

U of M Promotions and Marketing Director

It would be interesting to know the number of times in the course of a month that you, as a sports fan, are exposed to a promotion for one of the Gopher athletic teams. Surely it is more often than you think. Print, radio, TV, etc. are all being marshalled to get your attention. The Gopher athletic department wants to get you involved.

The person leading this multifaceted, state-wide effort to nudge you toward buying a single game or season ticket to a Gopher sporting event is Leanne Baylor. She is the Director of Marketing for Men's Athletics at the U of M. Leanne means to get your attention. And she firmly believes that you will be glad she did.

If you are a Gopher football season ticket holder or are thinking of becoming one, you are of special interest to Leanne. What she has to say of you is certainly encouraging. "One of the main things we need to do," she said, "is communicate a sense of value to the season ticket holders. That value is two-fold 1) the value of the ticket itself over buying single game tickets and 2) the value that comes of showing our season ticket holders that they are appreciated. We need to show them how important they are to us..."

"But before we can get new season ticket holders, we need to provide opportunities for the public to sample our product. That will happen through single game promotions and special offers. We want people to come to our games, see what they're like...check out the quality of the product on the field...its entertainment value...so that they decide to come back for another game that season, or, for next season, say, 'Hey, this was such fun that I really want to buy season tickets.'"

Marketing, you see, is not a matter of getting you to purchase something you don't want. It's a matter of getting you to purchase something you wanted all along, but didn't know it.

For any promotion, a market analysis is useful. Gopher athletics can be more effectively packaged and delivered if the promoter knows something about you, the

sports fan. So, if you're a season ticket holder for football, basketball or hockey or if you've purchased a single game ticket for any of those three events over the last three years, you reside on the Gopher database. "We just finished doing market analysis on the Gopher ticket consumer," Leanne asserted. "Our database has 45,000 people. We randomly selected 6,500 of them to send a survey. The response rate was 49.5%, which is incredibly high.

"The survey tells us things about our customers," Leanne explained, "and that will help focus our promotional efforts. For example, we asked how optimistic they were about the football program, what they perceived as the benefits of being season ticket holders, and how they rated the customer service of our ticket office. We also asked about demographics (age, education, etc.) and psychographics (likes and dislikes) of the purchaser. The survey will tell us something about our customers and the kinds of media vehicles (TV, radio, etc.) that they attend to. Our goal is to reach them better."

In the course of the interview, Leanne discussed some ways she is trying to get your attention:

TV -- "Since we haven't had the budget to buy TV advertising, we have relied on the stations around the state to give us very high quality public service announcements (PSA). The advertisements for basketball are PSAs produced by WCCO. But to compete in this marketplace, we need to buy TV or work out some kind of an arrangement where we have more control..."

Radio -- "We are partners with all the Gopher affiliates that carry football and basketball games in the state. They are very loyal supporters in ways we could never buy..."

Print -- "We've set up a program with the Minnesota Newspaper Association, whereby we get 200 weeklies and dailies around the state to run our ads."

Tours -- This year the department plans on doing three mini-tours of the state. Dr. McKinley Boston, the Athletic Director, will accompany Doug Woog (hockey coach) on one tour, Clem Haskins (basketball coach) on another, and Jim Wacker (football coach) on a third.

But, for all these efforts, Leanne contended that the most powerful promotion is a winning team. "There are so many ways for people to use their discretionary income (spending money) in this town," she said, "that few people are willing to spend their money out of loyalty. The success of the teams in this competitive marketplace is key. When the teams are on a hot streak, you sell more tickets."

Leanne closed the interview by focusing this point -- the importance of winning -- on the football program. "Of course we notice the effect when the football team wins," she asserted. "And the winning will return. We have great optimism for Jim Wacker and his staff. Our job is to make sure when the winning returns everything else is in place."

"Because the promotions we put in place will produce a response ten-fold when the winning comes back. And the winning will come back."

# Letters



## A MAJOR STROKE OF GOOD FORTUNE

Congratulations to Clem Haskins and his mighty Golden Gophers! What a showing in the NIT. The Gophers played with all the commitment and determination of any Gopher team in recent memory.

Looking back, I know we all wanted the Gophers to play in the NCAA but I'm not convinced we could have gone all the way. The NIT gave us the chance to show our talent before national tv audiences and I know it will help us for recruiting in the future.

What began as a big disappointment by not being selected to play in the NCAA turned into a major stroke of good fortune.

Brad Orenstein  
Minneapolis

## BALAND RESCUED SABATINI

I played high school football against Cal Sabatini in 1957 and 1958. I'm from Virginia and he was from Hibbing. I also remember bringing Cal and Babe Glumack (from Hibbing) to my home in Forest Lake during a blizzard at high school basketball tournament time a few years ago. They were stranded on highway 35E.

Gene Baland  
Wyoming

(Gene Baland, Bill Lah and Jerry Butler all correctly identified Cal Sabatini in the Who Am I? Contest. The winning name, which was pulled out of a hat from the more than two dozen correct answers, was Dr. Ted Litman, Minneapolis. Please try again.)

## A GREAT COMMUNITY ASSET

I'm from Hibbing and Cal Sabatini was a great community asset during his years as sports editor of the Hibbing Daily Tribune. Hibbing missed him and his family when they moved.

Bill Lah  
Vadnais Heights

## AN OLD FRIEND AND TEAMMATE

You ran the story and picture of Cal Sabatini in your contest. I knew him well. He's my old friend and teammate. Thanks for the great publication. I look forward to each and every publication and have never been disappointed.

Jerry Butler  
St. Paul

## KUDOS FOR KOLANDER

Thanks for the article on Chad Kolander. It's nice to see that a home-grown basketball player is doing well in the Big Ten.

Though Chad doesn't score as much as the other starters, he does other things: He plays tough defense, he gets his share of rebounds, and he passes the ball very well. Perhaps he passes off too much -- he should take his shot more often.

But I recall reading somewhere that Larry Bird said that the fans place too much emphasis on scoring. He contents that defense and assists count for as much as points. Chad Kolander would probably agree.

Neal McNamara  
St. Anthony, MN

## ITS NICE TO BE REMEMBERED

Thanks so much for writing an article about me. So many years after graduation, I am amazed and honored that the "M" Club and the University of Minnesota continues to remember its former athletes—even a distance runner from TWIG!

Garry Bjorklund  
Fort Collins, Colorado

Ed. note: Garry Bjorklund, from Twig Minnesota, whom Gopher Track & Cross Country coach, Roy Griak, once called the greatest runner to ever wear a Gopher uniform, was featured in last issue's Where Are They Now?

## LET'S HEAR IT FOR THE PARKING

Last week I returned to the U to watch a basketball game for the first time in a number of years. Boy was I ever pleasantly surprised to find that parking was less of a problem than I had remembered it to be. I was prepared for a hard search and a long walk, but what with the new lots and ramp near Williams Arena it wasn't so bad at all.

PS: We won the game.

John Siedman  
Maple Grove, MN

## A ROUGH SPORT

I just got home from a Gopher basketball game. A friend had provided my wife and I with courtside seats. I've never seen a game that close before, and I can say that it was an experience. The defense, which was fierce, and the banging for rebounds and pushing for position under the basket made me think what a tough and physically-demanding sport basketball is.

How those guys absorb the wear and tear week-in and out is beyond me. What you see on TV is a pale imitation.

Gordon Ingalls  
St Paul, MN

## PRAISE FOR THE UNSUNG HEROES

I appreciated your article on Dave Norqual. Here's an athlete who's given U of M hockey his all for four years, but has only a little varsity playing time to show for it. The article make me appreciate that the teams are not just the guys who get all the playing time. There is a sizable supporting cast behind the scenes.

Please consider doing further articles on the lesser-lights of Gopher sports.

Tom Miller  
Apple Valley, MN

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Where Are They Now?

## Rock Flipped Over Gymnastics At Early Age

By Len Levine

There have been many articles written about the negative effects young children experience from excessive tv watching. Most experts agree, it is non-

productive and takes away from the child's potential for development. There are exceptions to everything, and Jeff Rock is living proof of this one.

In 1962, as a sixth grader at Lincoln Elementary School in Anoka, Rock was a normal, active young boy who enjoyed all sports and spent countless hours watching them on tv. One Saturday afternoon he was glued to the tv set watching a gymnastics meet on Wide World of Sports. "It really looked like fun and I thought it would be interesting to give it a try," Rock said.

The following week, by coincidence, Jerry Johnson, the Anoka High School gymnastics coach who lived just down the block from the Rocks, asked Jeff to try out for his gymnastics team. He told him he was actively building his program by recruiting students about to enter junior high school.

Rock remembers them talking about gymnastics and how much fun it was and he "asked me to give it a try." Rock signed up and over the next several weeks, he tried all

the different events. "It was a lot of fun flipping around and jumping. It's kind of a daredevil sport, and while many of my friends were throwing balls I saw kids flipping on the bars and I knew this was different. It was a lure for me and I got hooked," Rock said.

At Anoka Jr. High School, he was involved in many sports: gymnastics, football, baseball and track. He eventually settled on football and gymnastics.

Jeff, the oldest of five children, gives a lot of credit to his parents, Dr. William and Rev. Liane Rock, for the development of his sports career. He said he could always count on their support and encouragement. "They were always there for me. They never missed any of my activities.

Rock said his gymnastics ability might have been hereditary. His great uncle Bob (the brother of his grandfather on his father's side) was "quite a tumbler" who belonged to the Turners, a well known gymnastics organization and early forerunner of today's health and sports club.

At Anoka Senior High School, Rock played defensive back on the football team lettering his junior and senior years on a team that was a perennial contender for the conference title. He lettered three years in gymnastics with his team winning the state championships in 1968 and 1969. Rock



Jeff Rock, 1972

won the state "All-Around" title his senior year after capturing firsts in tumbling and floor exercise, a second in parallel bars and third in trampoline.

Rock was widely recruited and received offers from schools such as Michigan and Iowa. "When Pat Byrd and Ralph Piper (University of Minnesota gymnastics coaches) talked to me they made Minnesota look real good," Rock said. "First, they offered me a full ride scholarship and they knew how much it meant to me to have my family watch me so they made a strong point out of that. It didn't take me long to make up my mind and I accepted their offer."

As a Gopher, Rock competed in the varsity All-Around event (which consists of six Olympic events—floor exercise, pommel horse, still rings, vault, parallel bars and high bar), lettering all four years.

Rock said competing at the University was "a big change for me, even though I did well in high school. The competition was pretty fierce." He credits the precise coaching of Piper, Byrd and then new coach Fred Roethlisberger, as well as other Big Ten gymnasts, whom he carefully observed, for helping him develop into one of America's premier gymnasts. "I learned a lot by very closely watching these other athletes and was able to pick up their best moves," he said. "I'd go back and work at it for hours and hours until I got it down and did it right, just like they did."

Rock, the Gopher captain his junior and senior years, said gymnastics "got into my blood. It was a big part of my life. I lived, ate and slept gymnastics." He said he'll always remember the Big Ten Meet his senior year which he called "the most thrilling meet" in his college career. The Gophers were hovering near the top the entire meet and going into the last event it looked as if they might win the championship, only to come up short by one-tenth of a point.

After graduating from the University with a Bachelor's degree in Elective Studies, he continued to compete under the direction of Coach Roethlisberger, whom he calls the "the most influential gymnastics' coach anywhere in the world." He said he looked up to Roethlisberger because "he had so much experience, both in college and as a member of the Olympic team. He could show us how it was done, not just tell us,

and that made all the difference for me. He's an incredible coach with a great record."

After Rock's athletic eligibility ended in 1976, he competed on several United States Gymnastics Federation teams as a part of the U.S. Olympic development program. When he was unsuccessful in his bid to win a spot in the Olympic qualifying meet, he decided to end serious competition.

Since graduating from the U of M, Rock's work experience has been varied. He's held a variety of jobs, ranging from hospital assistant to high school coach. Since 1976 he has been actively involved in the Anoka/Coon Rapids gymnastics development program, has held a

number of coaching positions and currently is the gymnastics coach at St. Francis High School.

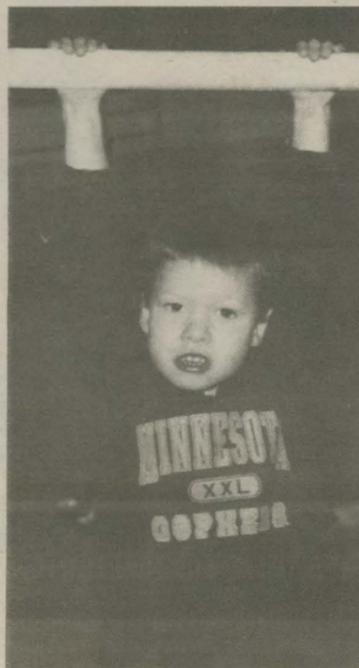
Rock, 42, said he works hard at keeping in shape and still competes regularly in Gopher Alumni meets. Last November, he proudly boasted he completed his routines and "didn't fall off or get hurt."

Rock said going to the University of Minnesota was a "real good decision. I made a lot of friends who I still count as my friends today. I love the U of M and their gymnastics program." He said he continues to stay close to the sport by officiating at high school, clubs and Big Ten collegiate meets.

Rock unabashedly called the University of Minnesota, one of the most important educational institutions in the country and said he believes "the faculty has consistently been second to none."

Rock and his wife Jodi live in Anoka and are the parents of three children, Rochelle, 20, Jordan, 4, and Austin, born on March 27th.

*Len Levine earned three varsity letters as a member of the Gopher track team and established several records, one of which (the 60-yard dash) stood for 17 years. He was the silver medal winner in the 1960 Big Ten 300-yard dash championship. Levine was President of the "M" Club in 1989.*



Jordan Rock, age 4, on parallel bars

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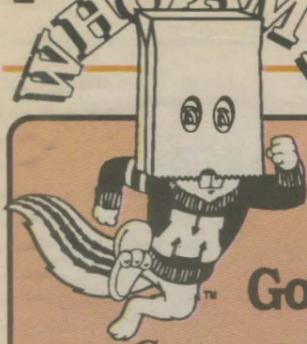


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4 WHO AM I?



**And What Part Did I Play In The Golden Gopher Tradition?**

*Congratulations to Dr. Ted Litman of Minneapolis, MN a "Who Am I?" winner!*



Cal Sabatini

I grew up in Hibbing, Minnesota, where I played just about every sport there was. When I got to Hibbing High School, I played guard on the basketball team, quarterback on the football squad, was an infielder in baseball and a sprinter on the track team. In 1958 the Missabi Daily News named me the "Athlete of the Year" for all of Northern Minnesota.

As a Gopher, I played basketball for John Kundla and was the team captain for the 1961-62 season. After my basketball eligibility ended, I joined the sales team of Mackay Envelope Company. For the next four years, I was consistently one of Harvey Mackay's top sales representatives.

In 1971 I became sports editor of the Hibbing Daily Tribune. In 1976 I became sports director of Duluth television stations WDIO and KBJR. Since 1985 I have worked for Spirit Mountain in Duluth.

I'll always remember the night we defeated Michigan State 89-70. We scored more points that night than in any other game in which John Kundla was the coach. We were also tough under the boards, pulling down 39 rebounds as compared to 17 for the Spartans. In the picture at left, I am shown scoring the game's first points.

I played many sports at my Provisio East High School in Maywood, Illinois but concentrated on baseball and basketball. In baseball I threw three no-hit games and in basketball I was named to the all-conference and all-state teams two years in a row.

I first played college basketball at Fort Dodge (Iowa) Junior College, where I scored 1,261 points in two years. I was named First Team Junior College All-American my sophomore year.

I was all set to transfer to the University of Iowa until Harvey Mackay visited my parents and me on one of his business trips to Chicago. He convinced me that Minnesota was the school to play at and the Twin Cities was the place to be after graduation.

I played basketball two years at the University of Minnesota under two coaches, first John Kundla and then Bill Fitch. I was elected captain my senior year and also was named to the All-Big Ten team.

I scored thirty points, for my best game ever, against Illinois my senior year. It was a game I'll always remember. Two bus loads of people came from my old neighborhood to cheer me on.

I was drafted by the Phoenix Suns in the NBA and after a short playing career I joined the Gopher coaching staff as an assistant basketball coach.

In 1971 I started coaching basketball at Minneapolis Central High School and five years later my team was ranked number one in the state.

I was the national product sales manager for the Pillsbury Company for 13 years. When the Timberwolves came to town I was named their first Director of Sales in charge of all community basketball operations. Today I am the Business Development Manager for Jostens, Inc. WHO AM I?



1969 Photo



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## Calling the Turn with Jimmy Byrne

About the only certainty for Minnesota Gopher basketball next season is that 14,000 fans means a sellout.

"I'm going to like that because for every home game we should have a packed house," said Gopher Head Coach Clem Haskins.

With the remodeling of Williams Arena for basketball, most of its quaintness will remain. But in the process, 2,000 seats will be lost.

"I feel sorry that we will have 2,000 less seats for fans," Haskins added. "But we had to bring the (seating) capacity within the fire code.

"Williams Arena has been a difficult place for visiting teams to play basketball. We want to keep it that way, and we will. Penn State also is a difficult place for a visiting team to play basketball."

Before Williams Arena was reduced to its current 16,426 capacity, crowds of over 18,000 were common for Gopher, as well as Minnesota State High School Basketball Tournament, games.

Don't tell anybody, but there may have been some crowds of 19,000 along the way. Some diehards may even tell you that a crowd in excess of 20,000 could be found noted somewhere in the dusty record books.

In spite of the arena renovation, the trademark raised playing floor and sawed-off coaches' stools will remain.

Once during the 1993 basketball season, a visiting player tried testing one of those stools. A game official asked the kid to move.

### SHORT TURNS:

- Haskins called his Gophers "a 10-man team" before the end of the regular season. That was partly the result of injuries to so many key players throughout the schedule.

- Minnesota athletic team followers, former athletes, and vacationers were without a golf

tournament in Arizona this March. There used to be two such tournaments right around St. Patrick's Day each year. One was the Williams Scholarship Fund Tournament at Rio Verde. The other was a tourney at Hillcrest in Sun City sponsored by WCCO Radio and run by the late Rollie Johnson.

Both these tournaments were extremely popular. Tom Barron, former Williams Fund director, remembers Billy Bloedel and the late Ray King running the shows at Rio Verde.

"Those guys helped the Williams Fund a lot," Barron said.

"They were roommates when they attended the University." King was an All-American end, and Bloedel was a football team manager.

Rollie Johnson, a great Gopher booster while in radio and TV, died in early January this year. Last fall illness prevented Rollie from attending University of Minnesota football games. It was the first season he'd missed since 1930. I know how much Rollie suffered not being at those games.

- Minnesota Gopher hockey looks brighter already for next season. Not only will the team play in the new Mariucci Arena, but the Minnesota North Stars move to Dallas makes the Gophers the best hockey attraction in the Twin Cities area.

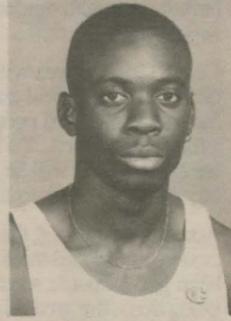
The state also now has three teams in the WCHA: the Gophers, Minnesota-Duluth, and St. Cloud State. The Gopher/Minnesota-Duluth series has always been a 'natural.' Now the Gopher/St. Cloud State series is heating up. These two intrastate rivals battled each other at the Target Center in Minneapolis in the WCHA league finale.



Clem Haskins, Gopher Basketball Head Coach

## Profiles of Gopher Student-Athletes

Keita Cline (Gainesville, FL), track & field sophomore, age 18...pre-med student...in high school finished fourth in the long jump and third in the triple jump in the '91 Florida state meet...at the U of M, set school outdoor records of 53-1 in the triple jump and 24-11 in the long jump...claimed triple jump title at the '92 Big Ten Championships with a leap of 50-7 1/2 en route to collecting league freshman of the year honors...also set school indoor record in the triple jump with a leap of 51-8 1/2 and freshman mark in the long jump at 24-1 3/4... personal bests: long jump 24-11, triple jump 53-1.



Keita Cline

Martin Eriksson (Stockholm, Sweden), track & field junior, age 21, computer science major...set the Swedish national junior record with a vault of 17-1...at the U of M finished third in the '92 Big Ten Outdoor Championships with a vault of 17-3 1/2...set new outdoor school record and qualified for the NCAA Championships with a winning mark of 17-10 1/2 at the '92 Minnesota Outdoor Open...placed ninth at the '92 NCAA Outdoor Championships with a vault of 17-8 1/2... set an indoors freshman school record of 17-6 1/4...Scholar-Athlete Award winner in '91 and '92...on the '92 Academic All-Big Ten Team...personal best: 17-10 1/2.



Martin Eriksson

Continued on page 8

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## Running from page 1

together. It's been working.

"We've got a good team concept going," Doug said. "We hope to do well this year as a team. I have to uphold my end, try to score come points in the meets."

So, according to Doug, all those who think track and field is an individual sport are wrong. The athletes run and jump and throw as a team. They win and lose as a team.

So Doug runs with the team, logging 50 to 60 miles a week, down from 70 to as many as 85 a week during the cross-country season. Though he hasn't been doing his morning runs, he says he is satisfied with the intensity of his workouts and with the results he has had. "My first two races this year I set PRs in the 3000 (8:27) and mile (4:15.3)," he said. "I'm trying to build up my strength for the longer distances."

Surprisingly, for all his endurance, Doug has run only one 10000. "I had trouble with that race," he said, "because I went out too hard (15:10 for 5000) and then ran a 16:10 second 5000. I had hoped to run each half in 15:30. It was a long race. That wasn't a good experi-

ence. But other guys (Berg, Gonzales, Kotsonas or Rathe) will be running that race. I'll be handling the steeplechase."

So how has the track and field team been doing? "Last year we took fourth in the Big Ten both indoors and outdoors," Doug said. "But we only scored two points in distance races in the last indoor championship. We want to change that. We can be in the top three for both indoors and outdoors. People are really supporting each other."

Coach Griak agrees with Doug's assessment of the track and field team's chances: "We have more talented people than we've had in a long, long time.... To improve upon what we did last year will be difficult, but I think the team will be up to the challenge."

According to Doug, the fan support for the cross-country and track and field teams has been good. People seem to appreciate, as Doug does, the great U of M running tradition, which includes the likes of Morrison, Bjorklund, Gisselquist and Plasencia.

Fans who have watched a cross-country meet at the U of M Golf Course know the rare excitement it arouses. The runners sprint from the start/finish line in a great herd, running faster than you'd ever believe for a race of almost five miles. And if you stand at the start, you can watch the runners return on a loop, spread out in a line, and then head out again, and finally you can watch them return for a final desperate sprint to the finish, as exhausted

as athletes in any sport ever are.

Or, if you're energetic, after the start of the race you can run to another part of the course to watch the runners charge past, and then hurry back to the finish line to catch the end of the race. It's high energy excitement.

And for track and field fans, the Gophers compete at home on a first-class outdoor facility. "I've been to tracks around the world," said Coach Griak, "and this facility ranks right with the best."

So at the outdoor meets, watch the steeplechase and keep the time 8:55 in mind. But also watch the team score.

What does the future hold for Doug? "I want to get an internship in the summer and graduate in the fall with a degree in Applied Economics" (School of Agriculture), he said. And running? "I'm thinking about running the Twin City Marathon in the fall. After that I may compete in road races, but if not, it's no big deal." A million citizen runners could almost cry.

The outdoor season is underway. Doug Milkowski is carrying the load of the steeplechase for the team, trying to score some points and maybe qualify for the Nationals into the bargain. The excitement will be high as he attacks the last hurdle in a final desperate sprint to the finish.

## Aches & Pains



Elizabeth A. Arendt, M.D.,  
Director  
University of  
Minnesota  
Sports Medicine  
Institute

Guest Columnist  
- Richard Feist, M.D.

**Q** I like to run in all kinds of weather. In December it was very cold, as you will remember. I think I "scorched" my lungs when I ran in that cold wind and have been coughing ever since. What should I do to get rid of the cough and do you recommend any type of precautions while running in severely cold weather?

M.M.—St. Cloud, Minnesota

**A** Outdoor exercise in severely cold weather presents unique hazards and requires careful preparation. Cold weather exercise increases the risk of asthma, heart attacks, frostbite, hypothermia and injury, as well as other minor problems. Appropriate precautions can enable people to exercise regularly in temperatures as cold as -70 F.

The success of polar expeditions, without special breathing apparatus, attests to the fact that the pulmonary system is resistant to frostbite. However, susceptible individuals may develop narrowing of bronchial airways (asthma) with exposure to frigid air. Symptoms of this problem can include chest tightness, wheezing and cough. Treatment with inhaled medications prior to exercise is usually successful.

The cardiovascular system is placed under greater stress during cold weather exercise. If a person has a heart condition, cold air on the face may precipitate angina. Additionally, because of snow, ice and extra clothing, higher energy is expended, requiring greater cardiac work. This increases the risk of heart attack. Covering the face with a scarf or mask and reducing the intensity of exercise counteract these factors.

Frostbite occurs when the skin freezes and hypothermia is present if the body temperature falls below normal. Exposed skin freezes in one minute at a temperature of -20 F. Wind-chill increases the risk of these problems. Even on calm days, running or skiing can generate significant wind-chill. Moisture from perspiration or precipitation reduces the insulating capability of some clothing, enhancing the rate of heat loss to a cold and windy environment. Additionally, fatigue or injury may cause a person to slow down or even stop exercising, which quickly reduces the amount of body heat produced in the muscles. Layering of wool or polypropylene clothing (which maintains insulating ability even when wet) with a wind resistant outer layer and a warm hat and scarf to prevent heat loss from the head and neck will minimize the risk of these problems.

Lastly, slippery surfaces, shorter daylight hours, blowing snow, narrow roadway surfaces and other factors combine to increase the risk of traumatic injury from a fall or from being struck by an automobile. Cold weather causes stiffer ligaments, muscles and tendons, which leads to increased sprains, strains and over use injuries. Brightly colored or reflective clothing, footwear with good traction, routes that are well lit and away from heavy auto traffic reduce the chance of injury. Warm clothing, along with a good stretching and warm-up prior to exercise will also help.

*Dr. Richard Feist is a Family Practice physician at Boynton Student Health Service at the University of Minnesota. He also participates in medical care for student-athletes as part of the medical staff working with the Athletic Department at the University.*

If you have sports medicine related questions, please send them to:  
**Aches and Pains** c/o Dr. Arendt,  
SPORTSNEWS, 386 N. Wabasha Street,  
Suite 1040, St. Paul, MN 55102

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## Gopher Tales

By Kalley Lisam

**Basketball** - The Golden Gophers basketball team made their sixth appearance in the NIT (1973, 1980, 1981, 1983, 1992, 1993),



going into the tournament with an overall record of 7-5 in the tournament. Led by Kevin McHale, the Gophers advanced to the NIT championship game in 1980 where they lost 58-55 to the Ralph Sampson-led Virginia Cavaliers.

The Gophers have battled injuries all season long, bouncing back to secure their fourth post-season tournament berth in the past five seasons. The team's regular lineup (Carter, Walton, Kolander, Lenard and McDonald) has been healthy enough to start together as a full group in just 10 of 27 games this season.

Going into post-season play, sophomore Voshon Lenard (Detroit, MI) is ranked first on the team in scoring at 16.6 points per game. He has 10, 20-point games to his credit. Going into the NIT, Lenard has made 45 three-pointers and attempted 129 this season.

Junior Arriel McDonald (Raleigh, NC) is ranked second on the all-time school career assists list with 349. McDonald is also ranked sixth in all-time steals with 113.

Junior Randy Carter (Memphis, TN) is the key to a successful inside game for the Gophers. He is ranked first on the team in rebounding (6.9) and third in scoring (11.9) this season.

**Hockey** - The Gopher hockey team went into the WCHA Playoffs with a pair of tightly-fought victories over the North Dakota Fighting Sioux 6-4, 5-4. In the first game of the playoffs, the Gophers played the Wisconsin Badgers with whom they were tied for second in the WCHA standings.



Tom Newman, hockey

Junior Craig Johnson (St Paul, MN), scoring his 20th goal of the season, provided the margin of victory in the 5-4

win over the Sioux. Johnson leads the Gophers in scoring with 20 goals and 24 assists.

Minnesota finished the regular season by winning nine of their last 12 games, scoring 4.25 goals a game while holding their opponents to 2.5 goals a game.

The Gophers, under Head Coach Doug Woog, have earned a spot in the WCHA tournament all six years that it has been in St Paul.

Going into post-season play, Woog's career mark stands at 247-96-19, with a .709 winning percentage. Woog has a 23-12 (.657) WCHA post-season mark and a 38-24 (.613) overall mark in post-season play.

Senior Travis Richards (Crystal, MN) ended the season third on the team in scoring with 11 goals and 23 assists. He is now third in career goals for a defenseman with 34 and second in assists with 95.

Senior goaltender Tom Newman (Blaine, MN) raised his record to 12-4-2 with a 3.35 GAA in recording a win in the opening game of the playoffs 6-4. Newman has a 48-20-6 record at Minnesota with a 3.51 career GAA (7th all-time).

Junior wing Jeff Nielsen (Grand Rapids, MN) had a banner season for the Gophers with 20 goals and 18 assists in the regular season. The 20 goals ties him for the team lead with Craig Johnson.

**Swimming and Diving** - Divers senior David Zams (New Brighton, MN) and freshman Pat Bogart (Mesa, AZ) qualified for the NCAA Swimming and Diving Championships.

Other Golden Gophers who competed in the NCAA Championships include: junior Matt Brown (Beaverton, OR), junior Can Ergenekan (Aloha, OR), Bernie Zeruhn (Hamburg, Germany), junior Eric Jorgensen (Rochester, MN), sophomore Scott Walker (Lansdale, PA), Steve Busse (Cincinnati, OH) and freshman Derek Williams (Lansdale, PA).

**Baseball** - Going into the break following winter quarter exams, the Golden Gophers have been led by All-American candidate junior Mark Merila (Plymouth, MN), who was hitting .400. Senior Ryan Lefebvre (Los Angeles, CA) was hitting .341. Senior Adam Sobocienski (Barrington, IL) led the Gophers with 15 RBIs.

Coach John Anderson, who is in his 12th season as the Gophers' coach, has directed the Gophers to a record of 390-258-3. This summer Anderson will serve as the head coach of Team USA.

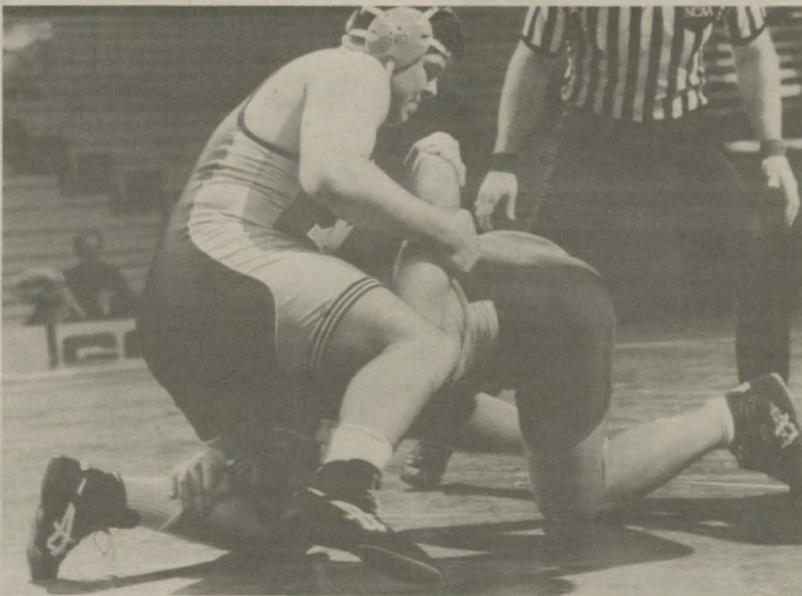
The Golden Gophers finished in 2nd place (behind Ohio State) with an 18-10 Big Ten record in 1992 before capturing the Big Ten Championship in the conference playoffs.

**Tennis** - Going into the quarter break, the Gopher tennis team is ranked No. 20 in the nation.

The Golden Gophers have been led by a trio of seniors. Rick Naumoff (Columbus, OH), who is ranked No. 41 in the ITA individual rankings, leads Minnesota with a 24-8 record.

Mehdi Benyebka (Oran, Algeria) is 17-7 and

Dean Hlushko (Arden Hills, MN) is 15-5.



William Pierce, wrestling

**Wrestling** - Big Ten heavyweight champion freshman Billy Pierce (Minneapolis, MN) and six other Golden Gopher wrestlers competed at the NCAA Wrestling Championships.

The seven wrestlers that have qualified for the NCAA meet is the second most in school history. Minnesota, which was ranked No. 8 in the final regular-season poll, had a school-record 21 victories this season, while compiling a 21-3-1 record.



Martin Eriksson, track

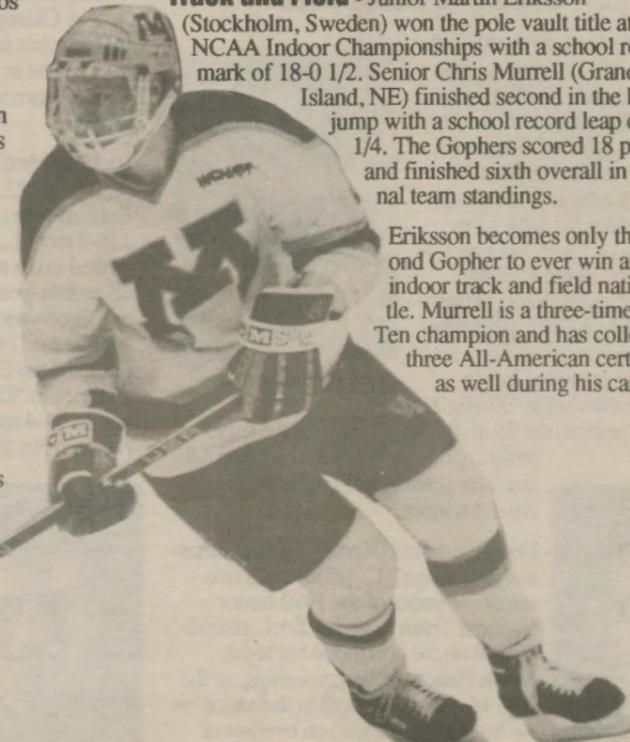
The other Minnesota wrestlers who competed at the NCAA meet are 167-pound sophomore Brett Colombini (Redwood Valley, CA), 158-pound senior Michael Marzetta (Liberty Lake, WA), 126-pound sophomore Tim Harris (St Louis, MO), 150-pound junior Willy Short (Inver Grove Heights, MN), 177-pound junior Brad Gibson (Chokio, MN), and 150-pound sophomore Chad Carlson (Pennock, MN). 190-pound sophomore Jason Klohs (Maple Grove, MN) is an NCAA alternate.

Pierce, who was ranked No. 2 in the final individual poll, leads the Gophers with 43 victories and 12 pins in 45 matches. Pierce is the first Golden Gopher heavyweight since 1953 to win a Big Ten championship and just the third Gopher wrestler to win a Big Ten championship as a freshman.

**Gymnastics** - The U of M Athletic Dept. hosted the 85th Annual Big Ten Championships March 20-21. The competition featured teams in the top 20 in the nation -- Ohio State is No. 1, Minnesota is No. 4.

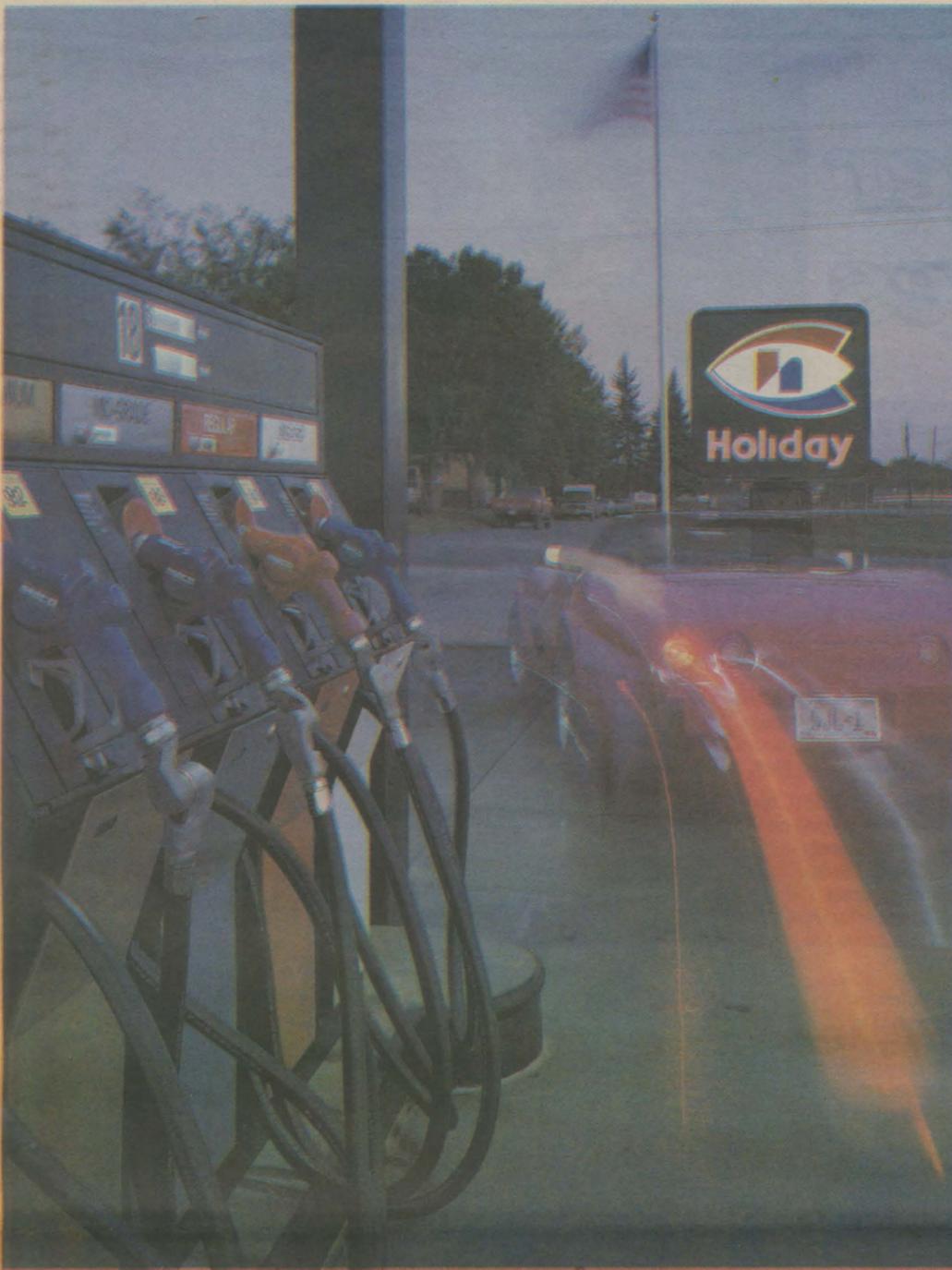
The 1993 championships featured Olympian and two-time NCAA all-around champion senior John Roethlisberger (Afton, MN) and sophomore Kerry Huston (Spring, TX), last season's Big Ten freshman of the year.

**Track and Field** - Junior Martin Eriksson (Stockholm, Sweden) won the pole vault title at the NCAA Indoor Championships with a school record mark of 18-0 1/2. Senior Chris Murrell (Grand Island, NE) finished second in the high jump with a school record leap of 7-4 1/4. The Gophers scored 18 points and finished sixth overall in the final team standings.



Jeff Nielsen, hockey

Eriksson becomes only the second Gopher to ever win an indoor track and field national title. Murrell is a three-time Big Ten champion and has collected three All-American certificates as well during his career.



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## Profiles from page 5

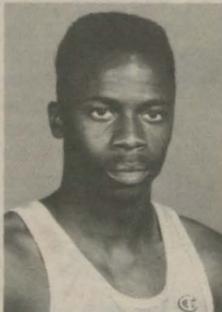


Rick Grand

Rick Grand (Bemidji, MN), golf senior, age 21...accounting major...four-year letterwinner during prep career...played in three state championships and helped lead his school to back-to-back Minnesota state championships...recorded an average of 74.0 as a senior...best 18 hole round of 65...three year letterwinner as a center for the school's hockey team... National Honor Society member...at the U of M played in five tournaments during the '91-'92 season, posting a solid 74.80 stroke average with a low round of 72...

played in 21 rounds in the '90-91 season, shooting a 71 at the Northern Intercollegiate Open...competed in 23 rounds in the '89-'90 season, firing a 73 at the Big Ten Championships.

Tyrone Minor (St Paul, MN), track & field senior, age 22...psychology major...captured '88 and '89 Minnesota State Class AA long jump titles with leaps of 23-9 1/2 and 24-0 3/4, respectively...also won the conference 200 meter crown as a senior...at Drake U, set school records in the long jump with leaps of 24-11 1/4 indoors and 25-4 1/4 outdoors...at the U of M, placed in four different events at the '92 Big Ten Outdoor Championships, the 100 m, long jump, triple jump and 4 X 100 m relay...scored points in three different events at the '92 Big Ten Indoor Championships, the 55 m, the long jump and the triple jump...named to the '92 Academic All-Big Ten Team...'92 Scholar-Athlete Award winner.



Tyrone Minor

Brian Ottenhoff (Kersey, CO), gymnastics junior, age 21... political science major...member of the 1990 Junior National Team in high school...placed second on the horizontal bar at the Junior National Championships...at the U of M, ranked seventh in the nation on the horizontal bar with an overage of 9.78 in the '92 season...earned second varsity letter... member of the All-Big Ten Team as a freshman...finished first



Brian Ottenhoff



Chad Carlson

on the horizontal bar at the Big Ten Championships.  
Chad Carlson (Pennock, MN), wrestling sophomore, 150 pounds... animal and plant sciences major...two-time Minnesota State Class AA champion...compiled an impressive prep mark of 167- 25-4...finished senior campaign 36-1...batted .418 as a catcher/infielder on the baseball team...at the U of M, finished fifth in the '92 Big Ten Championships to qualify for the NCAA Championships...won his first two matches in the NCAA's...lost 2-1 in overtime in the consolation quarter-finals to narrowly miss All-American honors.

Rick Naumoff (Columbus, OH), tennis senior, age 22...business major... finished prep career with a stellar 116-9 record...two-time all-state pick... ranked in the top 50 of the National 18's...four-year letterwinner in tennis and three-year letterwinner in basketball...at the U of M, along with Ross Loel, led the Gophers with 27 singles victories in '92...went 27-13, giving him 667 career victories... had an 11-4 record in Big Ten matches...season was split between No. 2 and No. 3 singles.



Paul Nelsen

Paul Nelsen (Lincoln, NE), swimming senior, age 22...child psychology major...All-American and Nebraska State Champion in 200 IM and 100 back in high school...won five Junior National titles in '89...at the U of M, has been a Big Ten champion in both the 200 and 400 IM... earned All-American honors in both the 200 and 400 IM and as a member of the 800 freestyle relay...has qualified for three individual events at the NCAA Championships as a Gopher... holds school records in both the 200 and 400 IM...runner-up at the NCAA Championships in the 200 IM in '92...first at the US Open in the 200 IM in '91...Big Ten Freshman of the Year in '90.



Rick Naumoff



Grant Julian

Grant Julian (Voorhees, NJ), tennis senior, age 22...business major... compiled a prep career record of 119-12...earned honorable mention high school All-American recognition... ranked 71st in the National 18's...three-time all-state performer...at the U of M, played at No. 5 and No. 6 singles in '92, contributing 11 victories...was 11-3 overall and 3-1 in the Big Ten... filled in with three doubles partners for a 10-2 doubles record...won his final five singles matches.

**When he wants to learn  
about Gopher Sports...**



**Tim Oliver,  
"M" Club President,  
reads SPORTSNEWS**

# SPORTSNEWS



JUNE, 1993

VOLUME 4/NUMBER 10

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## Accomplishments Athletic Department 92-93

WIN A **Chalk Line JACKET** (\$70.00 value) from **HOLIDAY PLUS & Gopher Football Tickets!** See Page 4



Dr. McKinley Boston  
Athletic Director, U of M

With the end of the 92-93 academic year at the U of M approaching, we talked to Athletic Director Dr. McKinley Boston to get his assessment of the accomplishments of the athletic department over the past year. The interview with Dr. Boston gave an ap-

preciation for the challenges of the athletic director position. At a minimum, it demands the qualities of a businessman, a father, a sports fan, an academic and a visionary leader. In the interview, Dr. Boston spoke from each of these roles.

But what are the accomplishments for 92-93? In large part, of course, it depends on the purpose of the athletic programs at the U of M. As Dr. Boston sees it, that purpose is fourfold:

- 1) To educate student-athletes.  
*This is the primary goal of the department. They are student-athletes, as Dr. Boston said.*
- 2) To provide entertainment for the community.  
*The community being the campus community and the entire state of Minnesota.*
- 3) To create a sense of pride in community for the University and for the state.
- 4) To provide an opportunity for development of the University.  
*To a considerable extent, development takes money. The more successful the athletic depart-*

ment is, the more money is available.

It's interesting to note that winning has nothing to do with the first of Dr. Boston's purposes for the department and that the state of Minnesota has a stake in all four.

vision for the department. "The University athletic department has to become connected to the state," he said. "No doubt, with the kind of success we're having this year, the

Continued on Page 6

## The Mystery and Magic of GOLF

By Pat O'Regan

Golf is a strange game. As much as any other sport, it has a mystery and magic that defies mastery. Maybe this is because a golf swing allows so little room for error. Or because a golfer confronts the game alone. Or because golf is subject to the whims of nature. Whatever the reason, few players master the game, and even those who do often suffer sudden, inexplicable spells when they can't hit a golf shot to satisfy themselves.

The men of the Gopher golf team have been on a life-long quest to master the intricacies of golf. Of the fifteen outstanding golfers who make up the team, five play in tournaments. Three of the mainstays of the team are Joe Gullion, Mark Hanson and Jonathon Kelly. This article highlights these superb athletes, discussing their backgrounds in golf, their skills, how they work on their games, and giving some of their thoughts on the game itself.

With Gullion, Hanson and Kelly leading the way, the Gopher golf team has a shot at doing well in the NCAA tournament.

Joe Gullion (Senior, San Antonio, TX)

Like the others, Joe started playing golf at a tender age. "When I was a little kid," he remembered, "my dad gave me some cut-off clubs. But I didn't start playing a lot until sixth grade, when my dad bought a house on a golf course in Texas. ... I've been playing year-round ever since."

By the time Joe was in high school, his game began to ma-



Joseph Gullion

ture. "I was second in the district as a junior," he said, "winning it as a senior. That year I missed the state tournament by one shot."

So Joe was a prospect. "I wasn't one of the top five or 10 recruits in the nation everyone wants, but coach (John Means) said I was in the top 20 or 30.... I was pretty good."

Joe said the strongest part of his game is his ball striking. "I hit my driver and irons well, usually keeping the ball in the fairway and hitting a lot of greens.... This affords me more opportunity to make birdies."

In the summertime, Joe plays in tournaments, spending 90% of his time between tournaments working on his strokes and 10% playing rounds. In the wintertime, with the U golf team, Joe practices at the Second

Season Golf Center, lifts weights, runs three days a week and plays basketball everyday.

Last year Joe compiled a stroke average of 73.5. His best round was a 66 (6 birdies and 12 pars). Of that round, he said, "It was one of those days when every shot I hit went at the hole and every putt I hit went in the hole."

As for the golf team, Joe said, "We played well in the fall. Though we had a couple guys leave that were playing for us, everybody's buckled down and worked hard and we'll be right there when the Big Ten championships come around."

In addition to the U golf course, the golf team plays a lot at Hazeltine and the Minneapolis Golf Club. Of the U course, Joe said, "When it had a lot of Elm trees, it was short and tight and really difficult. Now it's opened up a lot and is still short. It's a nice college golf course...not difficult by any means."

Hazeltine, however, is another matter. "It's a great golf course," Joe said. "Sometimes courses are hard because they're tricky, but Hazeltine just kinda looks you in the face and beats you. It dares you to beat it and it's hard."

What about the reputation of golf as being the most difficult sport to master? "I'd say so," Joe said, "because you have such highs and lows...one day you think you've got it and the next day...it's gone! You never really master it, because so many things can go wrong."

And what characterizes a good golfer? "Chipping and putting," Joe replied. "The difference between somebody who shoots in the high 70's and somebody who shoots in the low 70's is the ability to get the ball in the hole -- chipping and putting."

Continued on Page 2

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## Academics and the Athletes



Dr. Elayne Donahue  
Director of Academic  
Counseling  
Department of Athletics

Everyone has heard the horror stories. The stories of athletes who have been pushed through four years at an institution of higher learning by a system that took advantage of their athletic skills without providing them with an education. So that the athletes emerged without a degree and even, in a few sad cases, with reading,

writing and math skills that would rank them in the third or fourth grade.

That doesn't happen at the U of M. Quite the contrary, the student-athletes at the U are evaluated, monitored, guided and tutored if they need help throughout their university careers. And, to remain eligible to compete in their sports, they must meet the academic standards of the athletic department.

Largely as a result of the student-athletes' own efforts, of course, but also owing to the support of the University, the student-athletes at the U have considerably higher graduation rates than the student population at large. As a general statement, in other words, the students on the court or field are better than the ones in the stands.

## GOLF from page 1



Joe plans to continue playing competitive golf. Are you going to try the tour, Joe? "Sure," he said.

← Mark Hanson (Sophomore, Cedar Rapids, IA)

Mark's dad introduced him to the game when he was

eight years old. He was playing in tournaments by 14, shooting par by 15, and winning the conference title his last three years in high school. In Mark's senior year, his high school team won the state championship.

Like the others, Mark works at his game incessantly. During the summer, when he's not playing tournaments, he divides his time about half and half between practicing his shots and playing rounds. For shot practice, he'll spend two hours a day on his long game and two hours on his short game, standing at a driving range or around a green and repeatedly hitting shots. "You have to pace yourself on the driving range," he said, "or you'll get tired really fast." Last year Mark's stroke average was 73.7 with a best round of 67 in the US Amateur Qualifying Tournament in Iowa.

His consistency in all areas of the game, he said, is his strength. "I'm an average hitter (255 yard drives), but I hit it pretty straight."

The five men who compete for the U golf team in tournament play are selected by a combination of factors. Early in the season Coach Means conducted a qualifying tournament in Tulsa. The top three in that tournament qualified for the competing team. The other two are selected by the coach based on stroke average and his assessment of who will play best in the next tournament.

"Right now," Mark said of the team's prospects, "two of our (top five) players don't have a lot of experience. As the season goes on, they'll get better and better as they feel more comfortable with tournament play. By the time the NCAA championships roll around, we should be in good shape."

Mark has this to say about the game: "There are so many things that can happen in a golf swing...and it goes from day to day...one day you think you know how to do everything and the next day it's like starting over.... And it's strange, because some days everything feels good warming up but you don't play well, and other days you don't feel well and you go out and play well."

In golf the line between the mental and physical aspects of the game blurs. As Mark said, "The better the golfer, the more inner confidence he has. Not an arrogance, but self-assurance.... You know inside you can play well."

What about golf appeals to the good golfer? "Good players," Mark contended, "like that it's an individual game...they like pressure on themselves. In golf you have to do it all yourself. It's the sport that puts the most pressure on the individual."

And what appeals to the average duffer? "It's a fun game," Mark said. "You don't get physically exhausted and you're outside among the trees and ponds... It's aesthetically the best sport."



Mark has two years to think about it, but he hopes to play competitively after graduation.

← Jonathon Kelly (Sophomore, Mankato, MN)

Jonathon started in golf by driving the golf cart at age six for his dad. He'd hit

shots whenever he had a chance, developing a game that enabled him to start competing at age 10.

At Georgetown Prep in Bethesda, Maryland, Jonathon earned six letters in golf, hockey and soccer, developing a lot in golf, as he remembers, during his junior year.

Last year he attended Villanova where he had a fine freshman season. He was the low scorer at the Big Five tournament and was sixth at the Army Knight Invitational.

The strongest part of his game, Jonathon says, is his putting. Overall, he compiled a 79 stroke average in his freshman year.

A low stroke average, of course, means that the golfer has played well consistently. But, as Jonathon points out, some scores are logged under horrendous conditions. "Early in the season," he related, "we played in Florida and it was just a driving rain that we played in. To play in conditions like that and still have a low stroke average says a lot about your game."

The intricacies of golf are boggling. Jonathon said that the only thing keeping him from shooting even lower scores is his short game. "The Bermuda grass we're playing on is different than the bent grass I grew up on," he asserted. "The shots require more imagination...because you don't get the puffy lie as on bent grass. You can't always just take a sand wedge and flop it on the green, you have to bump a six iron..."

Practicing indoors during the winter has helped his ball striking tremendously, Jonathon said. During the summer, he hits at a range every day. "But," he claimed, "that can be overrated. You need to play a lot and be put in certain situations to improve. You learn to score well by playing."

Last summer in a tournament in Mankato, Jonathon shot a round of 65 (par 71), hitting no bogies and holing out a sand wedge from 40 yards.

Jonathon is not coy about the Gopher golf team's chances in post-season play. "We could be very competitive," he said. "With the people we have playing, we could make it to the NCAA tournament for sure."

What about the contention that golf is the most difficult sport of all? "It is," Jonathon claimed, "the most precise game by far. A quarter inch at the bottom of your swing is a difference of 50 yards at the end of your shot. If your club face is closed one-quarter inch, your ball could hook or slice 50 yards."

And golf is the most time-consuming of sports, Jonathon pointed out. In what other sport does the practice last as long as it takes to play 36 holes?

\*\*\*

By virtue of their life-long dedication, Joe Gullion, Mark Hanson and Jonathon Kelly have come to master the game of golf -- now and again. Look for them to lead the Gophers in the NCAA tournament.

The Director of Academic Counseling for the Department of Athletics at the U is Dr. Elayne Donahue. Though she bears the responsibility, she is firm about crediting others for the program's success. "The positive changes," she said, "are due to the efforts of many people, including the academic counselors, the coaches, the athletic administration, and others."

The role of the academic counselors -- Brian Berube, Michelle Roppeau, and Jud Haynie -- is crucial. "The counselor's role starts when the student-athletes are still in high school," Dr. Donahue said, always using the term student-athlete or student. "They meet the students for an interview during the recruiting visit and, in addition, they evaluate the students' high school records. That evaluation asks the question What is the probability of

the student being successful at the U? We answer that question very candidly."

The evaluations, of course, are provided to the coaches. "The coach," Dr. Donahue stated, "may stop recruiting. Or a meeting may be called with the parents and experts from across campus."

The academic counselors help the student-athletes get situated at the U. They assist, for example, with completion of the certification process (Prop 48), with housing and with financial aid. They may also see that the students meet with faculty or visit classes. And, the academic counselors help with pre-orientation, preparing the student-athletes for the two-day new student orientation.

The freshman year is crucial. As Dr.

Continued on page 8

## Letters



### PLAY SPRING FOOTBALL GAME IN THE DOME

I am a loyal football fan who has never missed the spring game since they began. I am a big fan of the Dome, and while I always went to the old Memorial Stadium I don't miss sitting out in the cold and rain.

I think it is about time to consider playing the Annual Spring Football game in the Dome. The past two years the weather has been miserable. It really takes the enjoyment out of watching the Gophers and limits the number of fans that might attend.

Dick Murray  
Minneapolis

### KEEP TRADITION OF SPRING GAME

There are a few things we do in our house in the spring, such as clean the garage, rake the leaves and watch the Minnesota Gophers. The Gophers Spring Game is a tradition that needs to be continued and even expanded. If the weather is bad, as it's been the past two years, why not move it inside the practice facility. Not many fans are in the stands anyway, and the facility could accommodate the scarce crowd.

Jessie McIntosh  
Coon Rapids

### BASEBALL AT U OF M IS GREAT SPORTS ENTERTAINMENT

I sat through the U of M's double header against Dayton recently. Even though it was a very cold and windy day, the Minnesota performance was outstanding. It was worth sitting out in the bad weather. Coach John Anderson's Gophers provide some of the best sports entertainment in the Twin Cities area.

R. J. Gross  
Stillwater

Ed note: The baseball Gophers had 15 hits in each game as they defeated Dayton 19-5 and 15-8.

### BASEBALL THRILLS

Having just returned from a Gopher baseball game, I just had to write to say what an entertaining event it was. The Gophers are an explosive team, with hitting and speed from guys like Mobilia, Lefebvre, Merila, Grass and Nelson.

And Siebert Field is a great place to watch a ballgame. The park allows the fans to have

the feeling of being close to the action on the field.

I'll be seeing the Gophers again before the year is out.

Martin Talsman  
St Paul

### TRACK AND FIELD EXCITEMENT

Your article on Doug Milkowski, the fine Gopher distance runner, struck a chord with me. As a confirmed jogger, I can identify with Doug's love of running, if not with his talent for it.

Having attended several track and field meets at the U, I can attest to the special kind of thrill they impart. The variety of events -- from the shot put to the steeple chase -- is captivating. And when the competition is keen, the excitement is no less than at a football or hockey game.

Bierman Track and Field Stadium is an outstanding venue at which to watch a track meet. Everyone would do well to give it a try.

Rob Webb  
Rosemount

### GOLFER'S DELIGHT

I just played my first round this year on the U golf course. Playing that course is an experience I can heartily recommend to all hackers who want to lower their scores.

The shortness and openness of the U course and its lack of obstacles allows me to feel like a real golfer from time to time. It's fun. Having played courses (like Hazeltine) where I get in over my head, it's a pleasure to play a course that gives me a chance to par a few holes.

Jim Dahlen  
Minneapolis

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## University of Minnesota



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Where Are They Now?

## Father Was Overskei's Role Model And Inspiration



By Len Levine

When Larry Overskei was in the third grade at Lake Owasso Elementary School in suburban St. Paul, his father took him to a Gopher basketball game in Williams

Arena. He says today his eyes were "big as saucers" as he stared at the court from the top row. From that time on, he dreamed of playing basketball for the University of Minnesota.

"I used to go to sleep at night dreaming of playing basketball in Williams Arena," Larry says. "I was hooked on being a Gopher." Overskei's dreams were fulfilled in 1967 and for the next three years (freshman were ineligible then) he became one of the most consistent and determined players to ever wear the maroon and gold.

Overskei, the oldest of Lars and Arlo Overskei's five children (he's the only boy), was born in Souix Falls, South Dakota and lived in three South Dakota cities before moving to Roseville, Minnesota in 1956.

Overskei gives a lot of credit for his early interest in basketball to his father (a high school teacher and coach-now retired) who often took him to the school gym on weekends. In fact, it was on one of those weekend visits to the gym with his sister Jan that he says his game began to form. "She was the most outstanding female basketball shooter I've ever seen," Larry says. "We'd play horse, and I rarely could beat her, but it sharpened my eye and developed my interest."

Overskei's first organized sports came in the fifth grade at Lake Owasso Elementary School and it was there that his interest in basketball solidified. He credits his father Lars and fifth grade basketball coach Jerry Seeman (who today is the head of all officials in the National Football League) as two of the most important people in his life. "They gave me solid direction," he says.

In high school Overskei played baseball, basketball and football and says he learned at an early age what it meant to be "fought after" by competing schools.

His family moved from the Kellogg High School district to the Ramsey High School district between his sophomore and junior years. His father was the football coach at Ramsey, and he wanted to live closer to where he worked. However, Larry says few people believed that was the main reason. Rather people thought that his father wanted him to play for Ramsey, which he did.

"I was dad's quarterback for the next two years," Larry says, "and it was one of the greatest experiences in my life. That and playing basketball for Joe O'Donovich contributed to my later college success."

Overskei says he remembers fondly the many hours he and his father would talk about Gopher basketball. "Maybe I developed so well because my father never pushed me," he says today. "He exposed me to the game and was such a good role model that I fell in love with the sport. We used to work one-on-one until my dad couldn't beat me anymore. He was my inspiration. And I also give a lot of credit to Coach O'Donovich because he wouldn't let me play strictly center. He said I needed to learn the forward spot for college, primarily because I wasn't big enough to play with my back to the basket. He was right and that's what saved me at the U."

Overskei had an outstanding high school sports career. He was named to the all-conference team in both baseball and football his senior year. But it was in basketball that he made his mark. He was named to the all-conference team as a forward his junior and senior years, all-state team his senior year, led the suburban conference in scoring his junior and senior years and was listed among the top

100 high school basketball players in the country his senior year.

Overskei says he'll never forget his final high school basketball game against White Bear Lake. The two teams traded baskets all night with the game going into overtime. Ramsey pulled out the win and Overskei scored 40 points.

After graduating he was sought after by more than 80 colleges, with scholarship offers from schools such as Kansas State, Oklahoma, Nebraska and Michigan. He says he was still dreaming about playing for "my state school and when the U of M offered me a scholarship I grabbed it. It was my home, the school was a top rated institution and I had a chance to play in Williams Arena. I couldn't pass it up."

The first two years as a Gopher he played under Coach John Kundla, whom he calls a "gentlemen's coach who was a very positive influence on his players." The last two years he played for Bill Fitch, "a tough, demanding coach who really knew a lot about the sport," he says. He lettered all three years.



Larry Overskei, 1969

Overskei says the day he first put on a Gopher uniform and ran out on the Williams Arena court was "a dream come true". "It was a special moment in my life."

I asked him if there was a game that stands out in his career as a Gopher. Without hesitation he recalled the Indiana game his junior year. Overskei, 6'6" and 205 pounds then, had his best game of the year as he scored 25 points, including the Gopher's final five points.

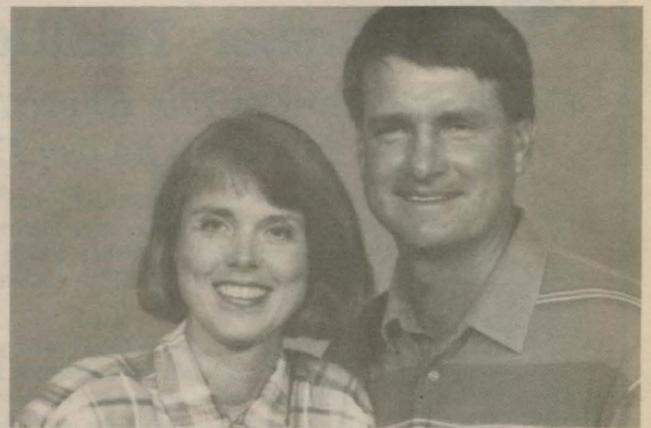
"Normally I played a post position and set picks and screens for Al Nuness or somebody else," he says. "I never minded that as long as they were scoring and we were winning. But on this night, I was hot and they kept feeding me the ball." He scored 17 first-half points, which were crucial to the victory since the Hoosiers out rebounded the Gophers 25-8 in the first half.

Overskei also remembers the Illinois game that year, which he calls "another major highlight" in his career. The Gophers defeated the Illini, 82-73, and Fitch credited Overskei for the win, as he boxed the big center Greg Jackson off the boards the entire game and scored 15 points.

Overskei was recognized for his great play as a Gopher. In his senior year he was named to the all-tournament team in the "Detroit Motor City Classic," the All-Big Ten team and the All-Academic team (one of only two Gophers to ever receive this honor), third team All-American-All Academic team his senior year (for a B average or better) and was named a Williams Scholar (for academic/athletic achievement).

Overskei graduated in four years with a B.A. in physical education, health and coaching.

Immediately after graduation he played for a travelling basketball team called "Venture for Victory", a team sponsored by the Fellowship of Christian Athletes. The team competed against U.S. military all-star teams at American bases and against national Olympic teams from Taiwan, Hong Kong, South Korea, and the Philippines. When he returned to the states he continued playing basketball in a number of city leagues.



Gwen and Larry Overskei, 1993

Overskei has good things to say about the University of Minnesota. "I know something about education and teaching," he says. "I can say without hesitation that the U of M is one of the best educational institutions in the country. It's a place where a person can get a good education like I did and still not get lost. I worked very hard at basketball and it made a big difference in my life. I was given opportunities because of it."

Overskei and his wife Gwen are the parents of three children: Kristin, a junior at Mounds View High School, Chad, a ninth grader at Mounds View and Trevor, in the sixth grade at High View Middle School. They live in Roseville.

Len Levine earned three varsity letters as a member of the Gopher track team and established several records, one of which (the 60-yard dash) stood for 17 years. He was the silver medal winner in the 1960 Big Ten 300-yard dash championship. Levine was President of the "M" Club in 1989.

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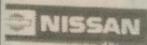
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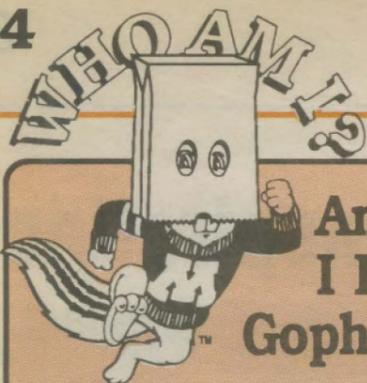
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## And What Part Did I Play In The Golden Gopher Tradition?

**Congratulations to Tim Engelstad of Thief River Falls, MN a "Who Am I?" winner!**



Jerry Kindall

I was part of the "Rice Street Legend" at the now closed Washington High School in St. Paul where I played baseball and basketball. I had quite a high school sports career and was named to the All-City Basketball and All-State Baseball teams.

I enrolled at the U of M in 1953 where I played three years on the basketball and baseball teams. Baseball was my major sport and in my junior year we won our first of three national championships under that great coach Dick Siebert. That year I was named to the All-American team as a shortstop and hit 18 home runs, a Gopher record which still stands.

In 1957 I signed a pro contract with the Chicago Cubs and played second base through the 1961 season. I then played for the Cleveland Indians and the Minnesota Twins until the spring of 1966.

In 1966 Marsh Ryman (U of M Athletic Director) hired me to direct the Williams Scholarship Fund and to assist basketball coach John Kundla and baseball coach Siebert.

In 1972 I became the head baseball coach at the University of Arizona, where we won three national titles. I was chosen College Baseball Coach of the Year in 1976, 1980 and 1986.

I grew up in Elizabeth City, North Carolina in the late 1950s and early 1960s. All the schools I attended were segregated, including my high school, P.W. Moore, from which I graduated in 1964.

I played four sports in high school: Tackle and linebacker in football, forward in basketball, catcher in baseball and a sprinter in track. I ran a 10.2 in the 100 yard dash and finished third in the State Meet my senior year. That same year our football team won the State Championship, and I was voted All-State in both football and basketball.

From the time I visited the Minnesota campus on a recruiting trip, I felt welcomed. People reached out to me. Until college I had never competed against white athletes, and I actually thought black athletes were better. Gayle Gillingham, a white Gopher lineman I was supposed to block, hit me so hard in a football scrimmage that my helmet turned around and my lip got cracked. With that one play I learned to respect people different than myself. It was my introduction to integration.

In my senior year as a Gopher we were the co-Big Ten champs and I was named to the All-Big Ten First Team and selected to play in the Blue-Gray Football Classic.



1968 Photo

I played two years at defensive lineman for the New York Giants in the National Football League and two years with the British Columbia Lions in the Canadian Football League.

I was the Director of Student Services at Montclair (New Jersey) College for 12 years, where I also taught Physical Education and was the defensive coordinator for the football team. In 1987 I earned my doctorate degree from New York University. I was also Director of Athletics and Recreational Services at Kean (New Jersey) College and Director of Athletics at the University of Rhode Island. On December 17, 1991 my life changed when I received an appointment for the position I have today. WHO AM I?



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## University of Minnesota

### Ben Williams Signs Contract: Could Become Pro Football Celebrity



Ben Williams

It's been two months since Ben Williams (Defensive end for the Gophers from 1988-1991) signed a \$93,000.00, two year contract with the Saskatchewan Rough Riders of the Canadian Football League.

in one week. He was so excited after his signing that he made the following recording on his home answering machine: "Hey, what's up? This is Ben. Right now I'm hyper, but if my mom and dad are calling I just want to tell you that I just signed a contract with Saskatchewan for \$93,000.00 and I'm going crazy. So I'm out of here. I feel like jumpin' in the snow or something. If this is somebody else, then leave a message and I'll get back to you whenever I get my sanity back or whatever. Peace."

Williams has great potential as a football defensive player and will attract a following of Canadian fans with his easy, outgoing manner. As a Gopher he earned the nickname Dancin' Ben, by doing a gyrating dance when he celebrated a sack.

Williams attracts attention. He recently was featured on Jenny Jones' syndicated talk show, which deals with topics Oprah Winfrey or Phil Donahue might not want to get into.

Williams knew he had potential to get a chance to play pro ball. But he just wasn't getting noticed until he signed up a local agent, who got him signed to a contract



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## Calling the Turn with Jimmy Byrne

McKinley Boston can sit back in his Bierman Building office, put his feet on the desk, look out the window and smile.

But he shouldn't laugh out loud, yet.

The U of M Men's Intercollegiate Athletic Director has seen Gopher teams and individuals shine during the winter and spring programs.

Of course, the biggest gain in many a Gopher athletic moon came when the basketball team won the NIT in New York. But the hockey team also had a commendable season, just a shade below its normal peak.

The baseball and tennis teams have been ranked in the top 20 nationally. They went strong all spring.

In gymnastics, senior John Roethlisberger became the first athlete to win the Big Ten all-around gymnastics championship four straight years.

Gopher P.J. Bogart won the NCAA diving



Pat Bogart, Swimming

Goldstein paced the Gophers to a school-best sixth place finish in the National Indoor Track & Field championships. Was that a harbinger of things to come once the Gopher trackmen got outside?

Let's hope Minnesota's NIT basketball championship has not been underestimated or overlooked by any parties involved, on or off campus.

Such a national championship, coming when

championship from the 10-meter platform. Bogart, a freshman from Mesa, Arizona, is the first U of M athlete to win a national diving title since Craig Lincoln captured the three-meter title in 1972.

High jumper Chris Murrell, long jumper Tyrone Minor, and shot putter Chad



Scott Eckers, football

Before Boston can enjoy "laughing out loud," however, the football program must be turned around.

Coach Jim Wacker has completed his second spring football practice at Gopherville. And the opening game of the 1993 season on September 4 at Penn State may arrive quicker than one thinks.

Spring practice came and went without much flair. Wacker seemed to be talking less than last spring, and weighing his words more.

Such an approach is often a good sign.

Minnesota's excellent 1993 spring football guide lists lettermen and starters, both returning and lost, by position.

and where it did, was a terrific lift for the entire Men's Intercollegiate Athletic Program at the U of M. It's sure to have a very positive ripple effect for a long while.

National television exposure from New York's Madison Square Garden should result in countless benefits for Gopher athletics.



Timothy Schade, football

Wacker worked with top quarterback candidates Tim Schade, a transfer from Texas Christian a year ago, Scott Eckers from St. Louis, and Bobby Jones from Cincinnati. Schade and Eckers will be juniors and Jones a freshman.

Schade entered spring practice with the best "clippings" of the three. He'll probably be No. 1 next fall, barring the unforeseen. Eckers has shown qualities for surprise.

Jim Byrne began writing for the Minneapolis Star in 1936. His 43-year sports reporting career started with sailing and expanded to include a wide range of Minnesota sports at the high school, college, and professional levels.

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## Butch Nash: The Living Heart And Soul Of Gopher Football Tradition

by Dubi Fishler



Former Gopher End Coach Butch Nash at the Annual Maroon-White Spring Intrasquad Football Game.

It was a cold, windy day for the annual Maroon-White Spring Intrasquad Football Game. But the fans came and the Jim Wacker coached team looked as sharp as any we've seen in many years.

There were some exciting moments on offense, with Antonio Carter leading all rushers with 86 yards and two touchdowns. Tailback Chris Darkins had 59 yards and two touchdowns, tailback Chuck Rios caught five passes for 93 yards and one touchdown and slotback Omar Douglas had eight catches for 103 yards.

There were some bright spots on defense, with right tackle Ed Hawthorne, who had two sacks, and freshmen cornerbacks Kevin Holmes and Donald Williams, who blocked a punt.

There were people of all ages there. Some lined the running track and were close enough to reach out and touch a player. Others were huddled under blankets in the stands. In all there were estimates that more than 3000 loyal fans braved the winds to attend.

One of the fans there that day was former Gopher end coach Butch Nash. Nash was one

of the most respected coaches in Minnesota gridiron history. He coached the Gopher ends for more than 50 years and was himself one of the great ends of his era. He made All-Conference and All-American. Nash was the talk of the country in 1938, when he made 14 tackles single-handedly in the game against Nebraska.

Don Riley, long time sports writer for the St. Paul paper, once wrote this about Nash in SPORTSNEWS: "Tap Butch Nash's veins and they run maroon and gold. Look closely into his eyes and you see reflections of Minnesota grid glory...He is the living heart and soul of the Gopher football legend."

Nash will always be remembered for the half-time pep talks he gave the underdog Gophers in their two unbelievable victories over top-rated Michigan teams at Memorial Stadium and Ann Arbor.

**Some things a person can always count on. The sun will eventually shine. The grass will turn green. And Butch Nash will never miss a Gopher game or scrimmage, no matter how cold or windy the day is.**

## Gopher Football.

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## Accomplishments from page 1

citizens of the state are becoming connected."

Nothing brings that sense of connectedness so quickly as a winning team. Dr. Boston had

this to say about the NIT-champion basketball team: "They met with such tremendous adversity at the end of the year by not getting an NCAA bid and to respond to that adversity by winning the NIT was extremely special... To bring the state and the campus together over such a short period of time was incredible."

**"We are extremely pleased -- extremely pleased -- that our student-athletes are responding to our challenge of balancing both their academic and athletic efforts. We're really very comfortable with the direction we're headed with our student-athletes."**

To foster the link between the athletic department and the state, Dr. Boston has been touring the state with the coaches for speaking engagements in communities such as Hibbing, Grand Rapids, Red Wing, Waseca, Wilmar and New Ulm. "The goal," Dr. Boston said, "is to bring the Gophers to them and invite them to be a part of our family."

Fans around the state, of course, are most aware of the athletic accomplishments of the teams. Dr. Boston, who exudes the enthusiasm of a fan for all the teams, spoke at length about each. Here are a few of his comments:

**Basketball:** "Forty-five thousand people who attended the three NIT games (locally) was one of the most incredible things I've seen to be done on such short notice."

**Hockey:** "I thought Doug Woog did one of the finest coaching jobs he's ever done. He took a team that lost three key underclassmen and was playing poorly and turned it around to win the WCHA and first round in the NCAA...quite an accomplishment."

**Wrestling:** "They won more matches than they've ever won...produced a number of All-Americans and a heavyweight -- Billy Pierce -- who ended up being Big Ten champion as a freshman."

And the baseball team ("on a twelve or thirteen game winning streak..."), track team ("finished in the upper division in the Big Ten indoor championships..."), swimming team ("finished eleventh nationally..."), tennis team ("the only non-southern team in the top 20...") and others came in for Dr. Boston's praise.

It has been a banner year for Gopher sports. The accomplishments are obvious. But whereas the fan is apt to think of accomplishments in terms of winning games and meets, to Dr. Boston accomplishments occur as much (or more) in the classroom. "All the teams' grade point averages (GPA) of the student-athletes have increased over the past year," he said. "In fact football has maintained the highest GPA since they've been keeping them."

"We are extremely pleased -- extremely pleased -- that our student-athletes are responding to our challenge of balancing both their academic and athletic efforts. We're really very comfortable with the direction we're headed with our student-athletes."

On being asked about lowering academic standards, Dr. Boston said, "The University is not about to do that, and I'm not about to encourage the University to do that."

As for the athletic department itself, Dr. Boston has strong ideas about how to get it where he wants it to go. "My goal is to present a vision," he said, "and part of presenting that vision is to ask for help to chart that.... The one thing I'm most proud of is the strong feeling of collegiality in our program...people feel a part of it. We want to continue to develop a sense of inclusion among each other and to reach out and develop relationships with the campus community and the larger community. Our progress on this is the thing I'm most proud of this year."

Perhaps mundane business aspects of running the athletic department, taking up so much of Dr. Boston's time, should be mentioned. The athletic department balanced its budget last year and, according to Dr. Boston, has every intention of balancing it this year. As he sees it, his budget is no different than most people

in their homes. "My philosophy," Dr. Boston said, "is If you don't have it, don't spend it."

So, Dr. Boston, how do you want the athletic department to be different as a result of your tenure?

"First and foremost, we're promoting a program that stresses that we're an integral part of the University. We're promoting an appropriate balance between academics and athletics. While we strive to be competitive, and we are competitive, we're also striving for that balance of academics and athletics.... We want everyone in the department to feel a part of the program.... We want to reach out to the state of Minnesota.... We're very, very pleased with the direction our program is headed."

Academic excellence, athletic competitiveness, full integration into the University, a close relationship with the people of Minnesota... Dr. Boston's vision for the athletic department is clear. So are the accomplishments for 92-93 of the coaches, staff and student-athletes of the department.

## Aches & Pains



Elizabeth A. Arendt, M.D.,  
Director  
University of Minnesota  
Sports Medicine  
Institute

**Q** I am a 45-year-old active person, who continues to run approximately 12 miles per week. I travel a lot on business, however, and after sitting for long hours I feel my legs are bloated. Do you have any suggestions?  
B.M.  
Stillwater

**A** If you notice swelling of your legs most noticeably around the ankle region, this is likely a sign of venous insufficiency, i.e., the veins of your legs are not able to pump all the fluid that normally goes to your feet back into your body. One of the main ways the fluid gets back into the body is the action of contracting muscles. Therefore, when you are sitting still in one position, you don't have the advantage of the muscles working. Also, your feet are constantly lower than your heart, aggravating this swelling. If this is your main problem, I would suggest two things.

**1** You should wear support hose. If you are female, support hose will likely suffice. If you are a male, they also make support hose in commercial lines that go up to your knees, like knee socks, and provide you with some compression to your legs.

**2** When you are seated in a position for extended periods of time, you should try to pump your calves and move your ankles around as much as possible. When you are in an airplane, it also helps if you have an aisle seat and try to get up and down at least once an hour to walk, go to the bathroom, etc.

If you notice that the swelling is quite severe and does not go away with simple elevation of your legs, I would suggest that you confer with a general practitioner or family medicine doctor to further assess this problem.

If, on the other hand, you have a more generalized sense of fullness in and around your kneecaps, I suggest the best way to counteract this problem is to try to shift positions in your seat as many times as possible, extending your leg into a more straight position as feasible. An aisle seat helps, as you can extend your feet into the aisle at least a couple of times every hour to get multiple position changes of your kneecap.

I hope this helps.

If you have sports medicine related questions, please send them to:

**Aches and Pains** c/o Dr. Arendt,  
SPORTSNEWS, 386 N. Wabasha Street,  
Suite 1040, St. Paul, MN 55102



## Gopher Tales

By Kalley Lisam

**Tennis** -- As of April 23rd, the Golden Gopher tennis team had a 19-match conference winning streak. They had a 20-3 overall record and a 6-0 Big Ten record.

The Golden Gophers are trying to repeat as Big Ten champions.

The tennis team has five players with at least 20 victories. Senior Rick Naumoff (Columbus, OH), who is ranked No. 20 in the ITA rankings, is 30-10. Naumoff has 97 victories in his Minnesota career.

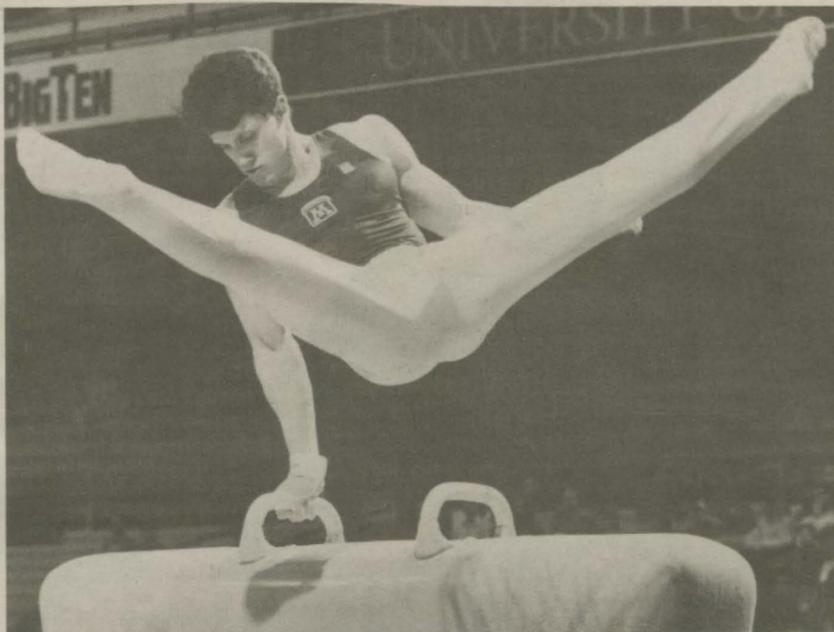
**Track and Field** -- Senior Chad Goldstein (St. Louis Park, MN) placed in two events at the Mt. SAC Relays in Walnut, CA. After finishing second in the discus with a throw of 169-9, he came back to place fourth in the shot put with an outdoor personal-best and NCAA provisional qualifying toss of 60-3.

Senior Chris Murrell (Grand Island, NE) was fifth in the high jump in the same meet with a leap of 7-2 1/2.

**Baseball** -- At the halfway mark of their conference schedule, the Golden Gopher baseball team had a 24-8 overall record. Leading the Big Ten with a 12-2 record, the Gophers won 18 of their last 20 games.

The Gophers, who were hitting .318 as a team at the halfway mark, were led by All-American candidate junior Mark Merila (Plymouth, MN). Merila led the team with a .419 bat-

*Rick Naumoff, tennis*



*John Roethlisberger, gymnastics*

ting average and 27 RBIs. Sophomore Darren Grass (St. Paul, MN), who hit eight home runs last season, led the team with five home runs. Junior Bill Mobilia (Ely, MN) was second on the club with a .367 batting average.

On the mound, left handed sophomore Andy Hammerschmidt (New Ulm, MN) led the team with five victories.

**Football** -- In their final scrimmage of spring football practice, the offense of the Golden Gopher football team accounted for 240 yards running and 424 passing. They had 33 first downs, five touchdowns and a field goal.

"We showed in the scrimmage that we are making progress," said head coach Jim Wacker. "The offense certainly was better. We just have to keep working and keep getting better every day."

Senior Antonio Carter (Columbus, OH) led the Gopher ground attack with 80 yards on 12 carries.

The defense also had its moments. There were six quarterback sacks, and senior Andy Kratochvil (New Prague, MN) set the pace with a couple of those.

**Gymnastics** -- The Golden Gopher gymnastics team finished fifth in the team finals at the NCAA Gymnastics Championships.

Senior John Roethlisberger (Afton, MN) capped off a sterling career by winning his third NCAA title with a score of 58.075. He became only the third gymnast to accomplish that feat in gymnastics history. Roethlisberger then went on to collect his 14th and 15th All-American certificates, as he won the pommel horse event (9.50) and finished fourth on the parallel bars. Fellow senior Rob Hanson (Ramsey, MN) ended his career with another All-American certificate as well, as he finished fourth on the pommel horse (9.30).

Roethlisberger was also honored with the 1993 Nissen Award, the gymnastics equivalent of football's Heisman Trophy.

**Hockey** -- Senior Travis Richards (Crystal, MN) and junior Craig Johnson (St. Paul, MN) were named to the 1993 U.S. National Team.

Richards has used up his collegiate eligibility and signed a professional contract with the North Stars.

## In Center Field: Ryan Lefebvre



Most boys in this country, of course, play baseball when they are growing up. It's almost a cultural imperative. And so it was with Ryan Lefebvre (la-FEVE-er).

"I started playing when I was seven," Ryan said, "because most of my friends were playing. My love of the game came from hanging out with my friends, playing little league ball. I was just doing what my friends did. I never felt that I had to play."

Why should he have felt that he had to play? Because for Ryan growing up with baseball was a matter of being wedded to the game itself.

"My dad," Ryan explained, "has been in pro baseball ever since he graduated from high school. His twin brother and younger brother and his father -- my grandfather -- have all been associated with pro baseball at one time or another."

(Ryan's dad is Jim Lefebvre, who played for the Dodgers from 1965-73. He later coached for the Dodgers, Giants and A's. He then managed the Mariners and is currently manager of the Cubs.)

So, when Ryan was growing up, he got to know many of the big names of the game (Garvey, Cey, Will Clark, Canseco, Dusty Baker). "Ever since I was eight-years-old I've spent summers with my dad and the teams he's been with," Ryan said. He was bat boy for the Dodgers, Giants and A's. He and Ken Griffey, Jr. are contemporaries and friends.

As expected, Ryan's background in baseball had an impact on him. "When I watched the

major league teams play in front of the big crowds," he said, "it motivated me to get better. I wanted to get to that level."

By the time he got to high school, Ryan had developed into a fine ballplayer. He pitched and played center field, batting .370 as a senior with eight hour runs.

One memory of his high school career stands out: "My senior year, after just barely making the playoffs, we played the number one seeded team in our pool," Ryan remembered. "On the first pitch of the game, I hit a home run, and we went on to win the game."

Ryan said he came to the U of M because of his admiration for Gopher coach John Anderson. "He was very open and honest during my recruiting trip. I respected that a lot." And, with a tip of the hat to Minnesota, "I was eager to get out of LA. The guys I knew who went away to school enjoyed the experience more than the ones who stayed."

Since coming to the U, Ryan, now a senior, has become a different kind of ballplayer. Whereas in high school he was a power hitter, batting number three in the lineup, for the Gophers he bats leadoff. "They want me to bunt and hit for singles," Ryan said, "and get on base and steal a base." And his approach to the game has changed. Baseball has become more of a mental game for him. "The more experienced

players can get by with less ability," he contented, "because of their mental focus and preparation and knowledge of the game. At this level, the biggest step up is the mental part of it."

They say you can judge baseball players by five characteristics: hitting, hitting with power, running, fielding and throwing. Applying these criteria to Ryan, leads to the following evaluation:

**Hitting:** As a junior, Ryan hit .351. Early in his final season, he was hitting .294.

**Hitting with power:** Though he hit a commendable eight home runs as a senior in high school, he has hit just four in his years at the U. But his role has changed. "As a power hitter," Ryan explains, "you look for a pitch and swing as hard as you can. A leadoff hitter is selective about pitches, because you'll take a walk and put pressure on the defense with your speed on base."

**Running:** Ryan says he runs from home to first in anywhere from 3.9 to 4.3 seconds. ("I've been clocked at 3.7 or 3.8 on a drag bunt.") Covering the distance in 3.7 is blazing speed. Last year he stole 16 bases in 56 games.

**Fielding:** In his junior year, Ryan committed just one error in 56 games.

**Throwing:** "Teams respect my arm," Ryan said, "but I wouldn't call myself a threat to throw out a runner at the plate from deep center."

One could add to the characteristics of a ballplayer the ability to play under pressure. As Ryan said: "I learned to deal with pressure from early on. I'd be bat boy when there were 50,000 people in the stands. I never felt uncomfortable ... It's not so much wanting to get up with the game on the line, but I'm prepared and not nervous."

As for the Gopher baseball team, a lot is expected of them this year. They are, after all, the defending Big Ten champions. Pitching may be key. "We have a very young but talented pitching staff," Ryan explained. "They've shown they can compete with any pitching in the country. But they're inexperienced, and the more games we play the better the pitching will be... In position players, we returned six of eight players. Our offense will be there..."

Ryan knows how important winning a Big Ten Championship is. "Winning the Big Ten is the goal," he said. "John Anderson has always stressed winning it and how proud we'd feel if we won it."

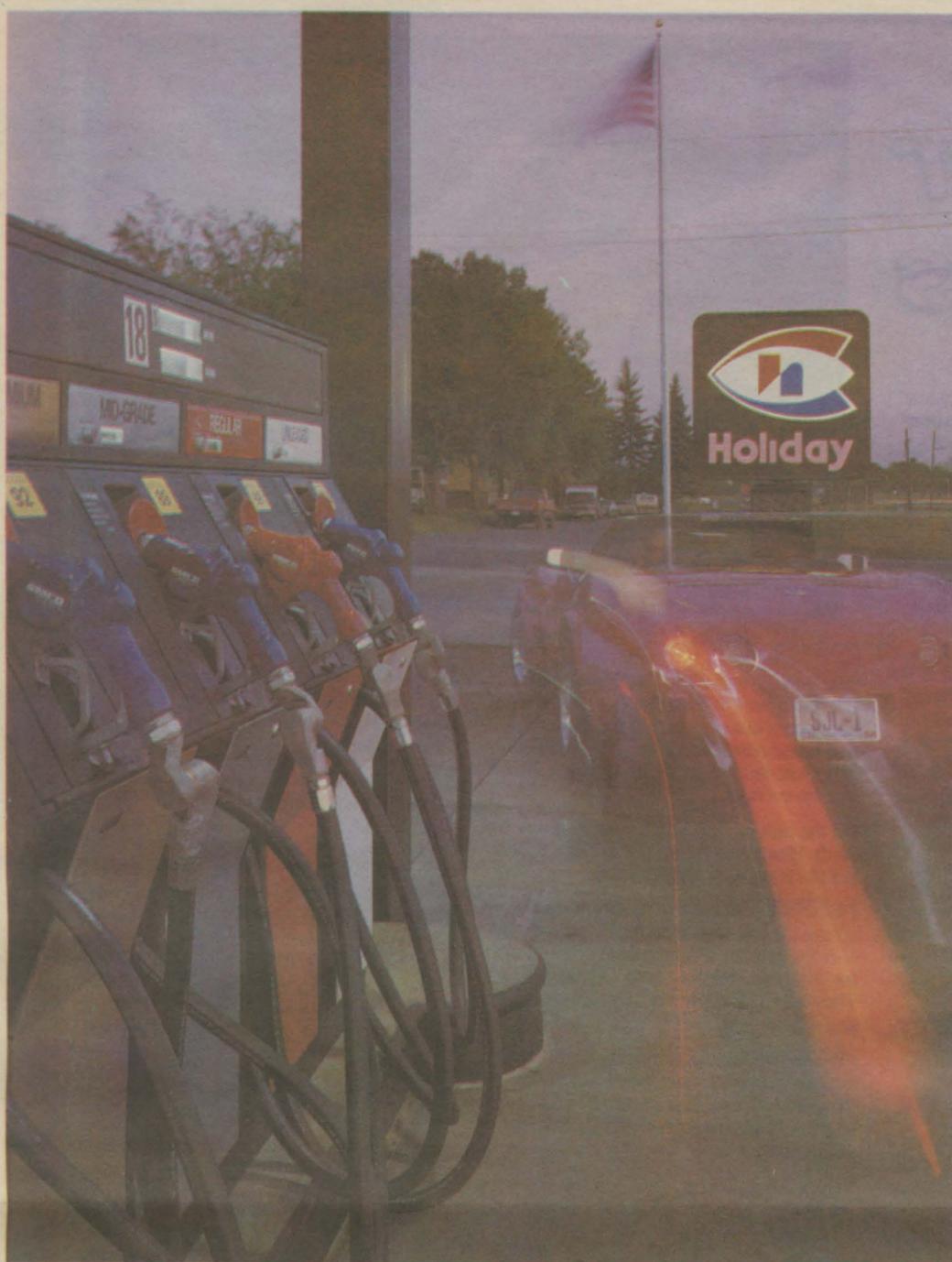
This year, Ryan is looking for that feeling again. Along the way, he'll be doing whatever he can to get on base. "I'll try to bunt for a hit at least once a game," he said. And he'll be led by a coach of whom he said, "He's a player's coach. What I mean by that is he wants the team to succeed for the players' sake... There isn't a coach in the country who cares more about his players on and off the field."

Ryan has already marked out a career in broadcasting. He did an internship with a radio station in Cape Cod (while playing summer ball for a league of premier college players) and has worked for the two campus stations.

And what about baseball after graduation?

"Professional baseball doesn't occupy my thoughts too much," Ryan said, "but I'd like to give it a shot. If it doesn't work, I enjoy broadcasting and I'll go on with my life. But when you've put 15 years of blood, sweat and tears into one thing, you want to play it out as long as you can and see how good you can be. In any case, because my family and I have been involved in baseball so long, it'd be very difficult for me to get away from it completely."

Well-nigh impossible, one would think.



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## Academics from page 2

Donahue stated, "Our support programs emphasize this year because research has shown over and over again that it is most important. If students don't do well in their freshman year, they're not apt to stay to completion."

Tutoring is provided for the student-athletes who need it. Not surprisingly, the need is especially strong in math. "Many students are solid, except in math," Dr. Donahue asserted. "And a good understanding of math at one level is necessary to move on."

But, tutoring notwithstanding, Dr. Donahue stressed that the students must do their part. And they must carry a full academic load.

Accordingly, one of the big problems for the student-athletes is the demands on their time. With practice, competition and study calling for attention, they must focus on things that have a payoff. For example, the students will develop their writing skills by working on a paper for a course.

Without a plan an academic career can go off-course. So in the second week of the school year the academic counselors meet with the freshman student-athletes to develop a plan for the year. They decide on courses to take, discuss major field and career options, and schedule any special things that need to be done, such as taking interest tests.

In addition, in the spring all student-athletes develop plans for the coming year. The plan may include taking a course in the summer to lighten the load.

At least once a year, the student-athletes take part in an academic team meeting at which the rules of eligibility for the U, the Big Ten, and the NCAA are spelled out.

And all along, the academic counselors are monitoring the academic progress of the students. They analyze papers and tests, for example, and receive mid-term grades. The counselors must ensure that the students remain, not just eligible in terms of progress

toward a degree, but academically eligible for athletics as well.

To provide motivation and recognition, awards are given to outstanding student-athletes. The 300 Club newsletter comes out quarterly, honoring those student-athletes with a 3.0 GPA (Grade Point Average -- max. 4.0) in the previous quarter. In the spring a scholar-athlete reception honors those with a 3.0 cumulative GPA. How successful has all this effort been? The following statistics speak powerfully of its success:

'81-'82 five year graduation rate: Athletic dept. -- 21% (men); Student body -- 28% (men & women)

'83-'84 five year graduation rate (first year of academic support program): Athletic dept. -- 29% (men); Student body -- 27% (men & women)

'84-'85 six year graduation rate: Athletic dept. -- 40% (men); Student body -- 33% (men)

'85-'86 six year graduation rate: Athletic dept. -- 46% (men); Student body -- 33% (men)

For the fall quarter, the cumulative GPA for the Men's Athletic Department was a very respectable 2.73. Only 13% had GPAs under 2.0; 42% had GPAs above 3.0.

Last fall Dr. Donahue's Academic Counseling Unit was recognized by the National Academic Advising Association and ACT as the most outstanding academic advising program in the country for public research doctorate granting universities.

## When he wants to learn about Gopher Sports...



## Carl Eller, reads SPORTSNEWS

Carl Eller was a University of Minnesota first team All-American tackle and runner-up for the Outland Trophy. He played 15 years for the Minnesota Vikings as part of the famed "Purple People Eaters". He was named Rookie of the Year, the NFL's Most Valuable Lineman twice, All-Pro five times, All-NFC five times, played in six Pro Bowls, nine Conference Championships, four Super Bowls and was nominated to the NFL Hall of Fame three times. Today he is the Executive Director of Triumph Life Center, a drug treatment facility with offices in the Twin Cities. Eller is pictured reading SPORTSNEWS in his St. Paul office.

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# SPORTSNEWS



OCTOBER, 1993

VOLUME 5/NUMBER 1

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## BLOCKERS and TACKLERS: The Men in the Trenches

by Pat O'Regan

Imagine yourself weighing 275, standing 6'4", down in a stance, ready to fling yourself with all of your might at an opponent of similar size, who also wants to knock you silly. Add a fierce competitive instinct on the part of both you and your opponent and the whole situation seems positively frightful. If that isn't enough, for all your efforts—repeating the violent confrontation 60 or 70 times a game—you probably won't be noticed by the people in the stands, who watch the backs and receivers, not the linemen. That's life for a Gopher lineman. But make no mistake about it, these men win or lose games. Ask any football coach about the importance of line play. So to give the Gopher linemen their due in SPORTSNEWS, we talked to two of them, a defensive and an offensive lineman. Speaking for the defense is Doyle Cockrell, a junior defensive tackle. For the offense is William Wangerin, a senior left tackle.

We asked Doyle and Will about the experience of playing in the line, about how they handle their opponents, about the prospects for their lines, and, of course, about the prospects for the Gopher football team this fall. What they had to say shows the game of football from the point of view of the men in the trenches.

Doyle Cockrell (Defensive Tackle, Junior, Evanston, Ill.) "I like the aggressive play of the defensive line," Doyle said. "There's no other position I'd rather be. You have to be aggressive to play defense." And large, too. Doyle is 6'4" and weighs 270 (265 after pre-fall two-a-day practices). And strong. He can benchpress 395; lift 300 over his head. And agile. Doyle runs the 40 yard dash in 4.9 seconds—outstanding for a big man. "Ideally," Doyle said, "you want the defensive linemen to be faster and more agile than the guys in the offensive line. But a lot of the offensive linemen move pretty well... Offensive linemen tend to be a lot bigger than you are, so the whole idea is not to get into a bull-rushing contest with those guys."

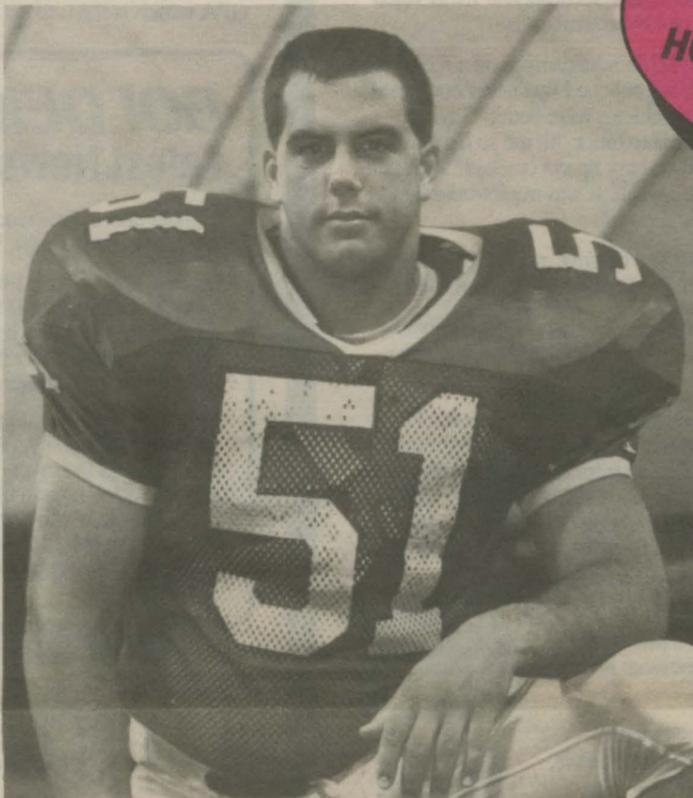
As Doyle said, the defensive tackles are not generally the biggest people on the field, the offensive tackles are. For the Gophers, the average defensive tackle stands 6'2" and weighs 262; the average offensive tackle stands 6'6" and weighs 299.

Basically the role of the defensive tackle is simple: stop the run and rush the quarterback on pass plays. "I feel I'm better against the run," Doyle said. "I'm just an average pass rusher. That's something I have to improve on." But it's not all that simple in execution. The defense, like the offense, Doyle related, calls plays on every down. "We have a whole arsenal of defensive plays. The defensive coordinator—Coach Dove—examines the offense and calls a play based on the down, yardage, position

on the field, time left and what-have-you..."

But the role of the defensive lineman depends to a large extent on the offensive play that is called. "If the offensive lineman's helmet pops up," Doyle said, "you figure it's pass. Then you have the responsibility to pressure the quarterback—and hopefully to sack him." And there isn't a lot of time to decide how to proceed. "The first step the offensive lineman takes," Doyle asserted, "I pretty much know what the play is going to be."

Doyle emphasized the interrelationship of the defensive line play



Doyle Cockrell



William Wangerin

and the secondary play. If things are going well, he said, the secondary is playing the receivers tight, which gives us extra time to get the quarterback. And if the defensive line pressures the quarterback, it takes the pressure off the secondary.

For Doyle, the hardest part of playing in the defensive line is the pass rush. "It's crucial," he said, "especially in our defense, it's crucial that we pressure the quarterback."

To do his job, Doyle has to contend with offensive linemen who hold. That includes essentially all of them. "There is a lot of holding at this level," Doyle contends. "That's just something you gotta work with. If you do your technique right, you can keep the holding to a minimum. But once those big hogs get their paws on you..." And he has to contend with running backs almost as large as he is. "If the opportunity comes to hit them head on," he said, "you want to hit them head on. You try to stand them up... We emphasize stripping the ball a lot."

Coach Wacker has said that defense is the name of the game. What does this mean to Doyle? The offense, he related, can have 49 bad plays, score a touchdown on one good play and win the game. But the defense could have 49 good plays and lose the game on one bad play. The Gopher defensive line is experienced. They have the same personnel as last year and all are outstanding. Dennis Cappella (6'3", 235, Senior, Miller Place, New York) at left end was second-team All-Big Ten last season.

And Andy Kratochvil (6'4", 248, Senior, New Prague, Minn.), Doyle said, "is a great defensive end." Rounding out the front four, Ed Hawthorne (6'2", 295, Junior, St Louis, Mo.), the other defensive end, according to Doyle, "is one of the best defensive ends in college football."

Doyle is optimistic about the prospects for the Gophers. "I think we're going to surprise a lot of people this year." As to the pre-season rankings, he had this to say: "Ohhh... I could probably speak for most of the guys on the team in saying I don't pay a lot of attention to what people say in the media."

"I personally feel any team in the Big Ten can beat any other," Doyle went on. "We beat the stuffing out of Illinois, and when we played Michigan a few weeks later, they put a pretty good licking on us. But when Illinois played Michigan, I believe they tied them." Go figure. And the Gophers lost the game to nationally-ranked Colorado by a missed field goal. Besides, Doyle concluded, "I enjoy being the underdog, because nobody expects you to win, and when you do win it's that much sweeter."

He didn't say if they win, he said when.

When they win, Doyle and the other members of the defensive line will be a big part of the reason for the victories.

(Doyle Cockrell is a Sociology major with an emphasis in Criminology, Law and Deviance. After the U, he plans to pursue a career in law enforcement.)

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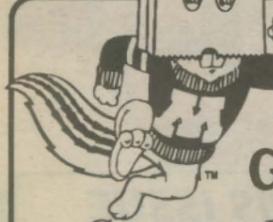
William Wangerin (Left Tackle, Senior, Bloomington, Minn.) Will is physical evidence that the offensive tackles are the biggest men on the field. His size is imposing, to say the least. He stands 6'8" and weighs 307. In spite of his size and strength (360 pound benchpress), Will is remarkably agile, running the 40 yard dash in 5.3 seconds.

How does a linemen get that big? "I was the tallest in grade school," Will said. "But when I graduated from high school, I was only 6'8" and 235. I put in a little extra time at the training table when I came here and in the weight room, and the size just gradually came."

But size alone isn't enough to play in the Big Ten. Will was a three-sport athlete in high school. He came to the U as a defensive lineman. "I was one of the biggest Freshmen that came in and we were lacking on the offensive line, and so they moved me over."

Continued on Page 6

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## And What Part Did I Play In The Golden Gopher Tradition?

**Congratulations to TIM HUKRIEDE of Dassel, MN a "Who Am I?" winner!**



I grew up in Elizabeth City, North Carolina in the late 1950s and early 1960s. All the schools I attended were segregated, including my high school, P.W. Moore, from which I graduated in 1964.

I played four sports in high school: Tackle and linebacker in football, forward in basketball, catcher in baseball and a sprinter in track. I ran a 10.2 in the 100 yard dash and finished third in the State Meet my senior year. That same year our football team won the State Championship, and I was voted All-State in both football and basketball.

McKinley Boston

From the time I visited the Minnesota campus on a recruiting trip, I felt welcomed. People reached out to me. Until college I had never competed against white athletes, and I actually thought black athletes were better. Gayle Gillingham, a white Gopher lineman I was supposed to block, hit me so hard in a football scrimmage that my helmet turned around and my lip got cracked. With that one play I learned to respect people different than myself. It was my introduction to integration.

In my senior year as a Gopher we were the co-Big Ten champs and I was named to the All-Big Ten First Team and selected to play in the Blue-Gray Football Classic.

I played two years at defensive lineman for the New York Giants in the National Football League and two years with the British Columbia Lions in the Canadian Football League.

I was the Director of Student Services at Montclair (New Jersey) College for 12 years, where I also taught Physical Education and was the defensive coordinator for the football team. In 1987 I earned my doctorate degree from New York University. I was also Director of Athletics and Recreational Services at Kean (New Jersey) College and Director of Athletics at the University of Rhode Island. On December 17, 1991 my life changed when I received an appointment for the position I have today.

I graduated from Minneapolis Central High School in 1954 where I played four positions in football and was a member of the swimming and track teams. In 1953 I broke the state high school shot-put record with a toss of 55'4".

I didn't complete my freshman year and instead joined the Navy where I played two seasons of football at the Great Lakes Naval Base.

I then returned to the U of M and started playing football for Murray Warmath. I played both offense and defense and had some great years. In 1960 our team had the eighth best defensive record in American collegiate football. I was named an All-American and received the Outland Award for the nation's top interior lineman. I was also named the Big Ten's MVP and was runner-up to Navy's Joe Bellino for the Heisman Trophy.

I'll never forget that day in 1960 when we beat Iowa. Going into the game they were rated number one and we were number two. We were 1 1/2 point underdogs. We had an unbelievable game that day. I was in on just about every tackle and my pass rush was never better. We held Iowa to only 46 yards in the air and won the game 27-10. That win propelled us into the number one spot on both the AP and UPI polls and eventually led to the National Championship.

After graduating I played for the British Columbia Lions in Vancouver. I was voted All-Canadian Lineman Of The Year in 1962, 1963 and 1964. In 1964 we won the Grey Cup and I was voted the MVP. WHO AM I?



1960 Photo



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## COACH JIM WACKER SAYS...

**Q** Once a student-athlete has enrolled at the University of Minnesota, what kind of priority do you place on that individual's progressing towards a degree, his personal goals and eventually graduating? What measures do you feel your program can and should take to help attain those objectives?

**A** For the student-athlete, the single most important thing that he receives is going to be a great education and a college degree. This will stay with him for a lifetime and is far more important ultimately than anything he is ever going to do on the football field. In 1991, we graduated 23 of 23 athletes at TCU, which led the nation in graduation percentage. In the spring of 1992, Minnesota's football team had a 2.62 overall GPA which is the highest ever recorded



since we have been keeping such statistics at the U of M. Obviously we place tremendous emphasis on academic achievement, with our players being the very best in the classroom, as well as on the football field.

## GOLDEN GOPHER HOTLINE: Latest News-Interviews-Previews

Gopher sports fans won't have to wait for the local paper to come out or listen to Sid and Dave on the radio before or after a game to get the inside scope.

From a Touch-Tone phone, a new service is now available to find out all the latest news by calling 1-900-884-UOFM (8636). This new 24-hour information phone features up-to-the-minute previews, results and news surrounding the 11 sport men's athletic program. The hot line features interviews with head coaches, student-athletes and Director of Athletics McKinley Boston.

Now when you want to immediately find out the score of the Gopher game earlier in the day, learn what Coach Jim Wacker said about this week's opponent, what Clem Haskins said following the game, how much are tickets to a Gopher hockey game and any other information of interest to Gopher sports fans, it's easy to be the first to know by just dialing your telephone. The cost of each call is \$1.29 for the first minute and 99 cents for each minute thereafter. Callers under the age of 18 are encouraged to obtain parent's permission before calling.

## Letters



### COLUMBIA HEIGHTS FAN SPEAKS OUT FOR WACKER

I get fed up with most of the sports writers in this area. They think they know everything. I even found out that most of them never played sports but seem to have all the answers.

Now get this. Some writers have picked Minnesota to be last in the Big Ten. It won't happen. just mark my words.

The best thing they can do is get off Jim Wacker's back and start reporting on the football team fairly.

Brian Osgood  
Columbia Heights

### NIGHT FOOTBALL IS TOP ENTERTAINMENT

I enjoy watching the Minnesota Gophers play night football in the Dome. It's a great night out. I hope the games are never played in the afternoon.

Wesley LaBore  
Minneapolis

### GOPHER HOCKEY ALUMNI GAME WAS MEMORABLE EVENT

The Gopher Alumni Legends Hockey game played recently was the best sports event I've seen in many years. Not only is the new arena a first class facility but it was great to see the likes of Neal Broten, Herb Brooks and Wendy Anderson back in uniform again (to name just a few). It was a memorable night.

John Harris  
South St. Paul  
(home of Doug Woog)

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Where Are They Now?

## Gopher Great Credits Football For Changing His Life

By Len Levine



Clayton Tonnemaker will go down in history as one of the all-time great football players ever to wear the maroon and gold of Minnesota.

Tonnemaker, who played for the leg-

endary Bernie Bierman, lettered in 1946, '47, '48 and '49 was named to the 1949 All-American team and finished third in the balloting for the Heisman Trophy.

The Tonnemaker football story began in Beatrice, Nebraska where Frank Tonnemaker, Clayton's father (he was 6'0-220 pounds) played guard on the high school football team. Frank played just one year, 1913, and his team scored over 300 points to the opposition's 13 as they went undefeated and untied. The following year the Tonnemaker family moved to a farm near Rush City, Minnesota. Clayton's parents, Frank and Anna (she's 92 and lives in Mankato) were married there.

In 1925 the family moved to Oglive, Minnesota to begin a new life as family farmers. It was here that son Clayton was born.

Frank died unexpectedly in 1936 and the family moved back to Rush City. Frank's legacy was his son's football participation.

When Clayton was five year old, his father brought home a football and kicked it higher than the house. From that day on there was no doubt that Clayton Jr. wanted to be a football player. Clayton's mother had misgivings about her son playing football. She thought the sport was "too rough a game" according to Clayton, but he says his father offered this rebuttal: "If you hit the other fellow harder than he hits you, you never have to worry about getting hurt."

Clayton was seven years old when his father died but that advice stayed with him throughout his football career which spanned through Edison High School, the University of Minnesota and the NFL. Tonnemaker was known for the way he consistently rocked the opposition harder than they could retaliate.

Clayton got his first taste of organized sports as he played on the football and basketball teams in junior high school. When he was fourteen the family moved to northeast Minneapolis where Clayton attended Edison High School (he

played center and linebacker on the football team and guard on the basketball team). He was a star athlete making the All-City team in both football and basketball. He was the second highest basketball scorer in the city his senior year.

When Tonnemaker was a senior in 1946 Bernie Bierman invited him to practice with the Gophers.

"Bierman told me he knew I had potential so he let me practice with the team every day for the eight weeks of spring practice." He says he must have made quite an impression. Bierman asked him to join the team which he says was "one of the most important things I ever did in my life."

As a 6-2, 240 pound center and linebacker, Tonnemaker was the talk of the country all four years. He says their were some great games during his Gopher career but wins over Iowa (55-7) and Wisconsin (14-6) his senior year were standouts. The game he calls "most memorable" was the 27-0 upset victory over Ohio State (Ohio State went on to win the Rose Bowl). Another game that stands out in his memory is the game against Michigan in 1947. The Wolverines barely squeaked out a victory, 13-6 but they couldn't beat Tonnemaker. Working from the middle slot of the Gophers' three linebackers,

Tonnemaker smothered every effort through the center of the line.

Billy Bye, a star back on that 1949 team remembers the way Tonnemaker played that day. "He broke up just about every pass over center and had it not been for the unusually fast back by the name of Chuck Ortman, the Gophers would have won the game. Ortman was so fast he swept inside end on cutbacks and got clear before Clayton could get his hands on him. I remember the way another Big Ten coach referred to Clayton that year. He said he was such a fast lineman that he could go to either side on your fullback pitch-outs and make the tackle at the sideline for no gain."

The 1949 Gopher football team is unique in Minnesota history. The 1949 Gophers produced three first round NFL draft choices: Tonnemaker, Leo Nomellini and Bud Grant. What make this even more significant is that there were only 12 NFL teams at the time!



Clayton Tonnemaker, 1993

Tonnemaker was a first round draft pick of the Green Bay Packers (and the third player picked in the draft) where he played linebacker just one season. He was in the Army Reserves while a student at the University and when the Korean War broke out in 1950, his unit was activated. That temporarily ended his pro football career. He spent the next 32 months (19 months in Japan) in military service. He was discharged as a First Lieutenant in 1953 and went back to Green Bay where he played two more seasons. During his three years as a Packer, Tonnemaker was picked to play in the Pro Bowl twice (after the 1950 and 1953 seasons) and in 1954 was the Packer captain.

In 1955 Tonnemaker began working at Cargil, Inc. in their management training program. Over the next 22 years he rose through the ranks of the company eventually reaching the position of corporate vice president and head of the Salt Division (500 employees and \$80 million in sales by 1977). In 1978 Tonnemaker left Cargil to become the owner and CEO of the Coal Creek

Mining Company in Ashland, Montana. Tonnemaker began acquiring poorly performing companies in 1983 and became known for his ability to build them up to profitability. He currently is the President and CEO of the IBP Equipment Company which imports machine tools for cutting, bending and forming metal. Their products are sold across North America. He also became CEO of the PACER Corporation in 1986, an industrial minerals, mining and processing company located in Custer, South Dakota.

Tonnemaker says attending the U of M and playing football was "my way out of poverty. Remember, I came from a family of very modest means. Playing football at the University gave me recognition and the chance to earn a meal ticket for the rest of my life. Hardly a day goes by, even to this date, that I'm not recognized by someone who remembers that I played football at the



Clayton Tonnemaker, 1949

University of Minnesota. It still helps me today in much of what I do."

Tonnemaker, who graduated with a degree in Physical Education, says that even though he never taught, the degree helped him get his first job at Cargil.

Tonnemaker, still looks like an athlete. At 6'2"-225 pounds, he says he works at keeping in good condition. He exercises regularly and on each birthday does one push up for each year of his age. Last June 8th when he turned 65 he did 65 push ups in a row.

Clayton and his wife Judy, a Speech Therapist in South Washington County (Minnesota) live in River Falls, Wisconsin and between them are the parents of four children.

*Len Levine earned three varsity letters as a member of the Gopher track team and established several records, one of which (the 60-yard dash) stood for 17 years. He was the silver medal winner in the 1960 Big Ten 300-yard dash championship. Levine was President of the "M" Club in 1989.*

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## ROY GRIAK BEGINS 31ST YEAR Runners Have Talent And Experience

by Dubi Fishler



Cross Country and Track  
Coach Roy Griak

Roy Griak, the Golden Gopher men's Cross Country and Track Coach begins his 31st year as head Cross Country Coach with a talented and experienced group of athletes.

"I'm looking forward to a great

season and we very well could be the surprise of the conference," said Griak as he and his runners left on September 6th for a week of training at Breezy Point Resort in Brainerd, Minnesota.

The Gophers will be led by Captains Mark Narveson (Mankato), and Curt Kotsonas (Chaska), both seniors. Last season Narveson was 2nd in the Big Ten Indoor Mile and 6th in the Outdoor Mile and Kotsonas was 3rd in the Outdoor Big Ten 10,000 meters.

Others who are expected to do well this season are junior Jason Rathe (Osseo) who finished 5th in last season's Big Ten 2000 meters and sophomore Jason Boon (Park-Cottage Grove)



Curt Kotsonas

who placed 2nd in the Big Ten 800 meters and was named the Big Ten Freshman of the Year.

Look for some good performances from junior Mark Gonzales (California), senior Chris Berg (Minneapolis), and sophomore Dan Philstrom (Irondale).

Newcomers who Griak says will do well this season include juniors Mark Kaler (Cooon Rapids), Bob Johnson (Kenosha, Wisconsin) and Kurt Ranzheimer (Wayzata). They will be pushed by freshmen Rick Obelman (Regina, Canada) who was the Canadian Junior Cross Country Champ last year, Kevin Dúnbar, (Brookville, Canada) a highly rated Canadian middle distance runner and Tony Riter (Mounds View) who had an outstanding high school career.

The Gophers will run all of their athletes in each meet but will narrow down their team to seven when they compete in the Big Ten Championship which will be held on October 30th at Michigan State University in East Lansing, Michigan.



Chris Berg

The Gophers will run all of their athletes in each meet but will narrow down their team to seven when they compete in the Big Ten Championship which will be held on October 30th at Michigan State University in East Lansing, Michigan.

### 1993 GOPHER CROSS COUNTRY SCHEDULE

Sept. 18	Minnesota-Iowa-Wisconsin at Iowa
Oct. 2	Minnesota Invitational - 10:30 A.M. - U Golf Course
Oct. 16	Central Collegiates at Kalamazo, Michigan
Oct. 30	Big Ten Championship at East Lansing, Michigan
Nov. 13	District Championship at Bloomington, Indiana



Mark Narveson

## Conference Medal Winner Says Being A Golden Gopher Is Highest Honor

Just before final exams last spring, senior John Roethlisberger, one of the all-time great athletes in University of Minnesota history, was named the Big Ten Conference Medal winner, the highest honor awarded by the University of Minnesota to a student-athlete.

The award, begun in 1915, was presented before more than 400 athletes, "M" men, and coaches at the annual "M" Club Banquet by Faculty representative for Men's Intercollegiate Athletics and Dean of the U of M Law School, Bob Stein.

In presenting the award to the graduating senior athlete who had demonstrated the greatest achievement in athletics and scholarship last school year, Stein called Roethlisberger "one of the most remarkable student-athletes ever to compete at the University of Minnesota" and added that his accomplishments "rank with the very best of the great legends who have won the Conference Medal before him."

Roethlisberger takes his place along side the likes of Bernie Bierman, Bud Wilkinson, Paul Giel, Johnny Kundla and Whitey Skoog, all prior Conference Medalists.

Roethlisberger, who finished his senior year with a 3.39 GPA in the Carlson School of Management, lettered in Gymnastics and was elected the Most Valuable Player on his team all four years (1990, '91, '92, '93). He was Captain in both his junior and senior years, was selected to the Academic All Big Ten First Team the past three years, and compiled a record of ten Big Ten titles.

Roethlisberger is the first gymnast in the 91 year history of the Big Ten Championships to win four all-around Big Ten titles.

It doesn't stop there. Roethlisberger, a 15-time All American, won the National Championship five times including being the All-Around Gymnastics NCAA National champ in 1991, 1992 and 1993. He received the 1993 Nissen Award, the highest honor in collegiate gymnastics presented to the outstanding senior gymnast in the United States.

**"Ever since I was a little kid I wanted to be a Gopher. I've done a lot of things, been to the Olympic Games —but the thing I'm most proud of is that I'm a Golden Gopher."**

— John Roethlisberger



John Roethlisberger holding his Conference Medal with Dr. McKinley Boston, who called Roethlisberger "an incredible young man who represents the finest example of a student/athlete."

Roethlisberger saw a lot of international competition during his days at the University. He was a member of the

USA Olympic, USA Senior National, Goodwill Games, World University Games and World Championship teams.

After Roethlisberger formally received the Conference Medal from Dean Stein, he said, in his characteristically modest way, "Ever since I was a little kid I wanted to be a Gopher. I've done a lot of things, been to the

Olympic Games—but the thing I'm most proud of is that I'm a Golden Gopher."

## THE HISTORY OF GOPHER TRADITIONS



By Mark Levine

Like most Gopher fans, there were things I always wanted to know about the Gopher tradition. When I would ask my father, a 1961 U of M grad, why the

University's athletic teams are called the Gophers, he'd shrug his shoulders and say, "Go ask your mother, you know she graduated later than me so she'll know." My mother, a 1964 U of M grad, doesn't know a lot about gopher athletics, but I thought maybe she'd know why the colors are maroon and gold. But when I asked her about the University's colors, she thought for a moment and said, "If your dad doesn't know, go ask you uncle. he was in the marching band, so he must know." I figured that my uncle probably didn't know why our teams are called the Gophers or why the colors are maroon and gold, but surely he had to know what SKI-U-MAH means, after all he was in the marching band. When I asked my uncle what ski-u-mah meant, he said, "Mark, all I can tell you is that it is a tradition, and you should never question tradition." I soon realized that my thirst for this Gopher trivia was not going to be quenched by my family, so I decided to find

out for myself just how all of these traditions came about.

The first thing I discovered was that Minnesota was called the "Gopher State" long before the university picked up the nickname. Minnesota got the nickname after a political cartoon in a local paper criticizing the state legislature depicted gophers with human heads. What significance the gopher bodies with human heads had to the legislature's actions isn't quite clear but, nonetheless Minnesota has been the "Gopher State" ever since. It wasn't until the 1930s that Gopher athletic teams adopted the nickname too.

The University had maroon and gold as its official colors more than 50 years before its athletic teams were called the Gophers. The significance of these colors were known only to one person, Mrs. Augusta Smith, an English instructor at the University. Around 1876, University President William Watts Folwell recognized the school's need for definite colors, and for whatever reason asked Mrs. Smith to choose them. That's why the colors are maroon and gold; it's just that simple. Even though the official colors were maroon and gold, Gopher athletic teams did not wear the colors until

the mid-1930s. Legendary football coach Bernie Bierman decided that his players should wear gold jerseys. This move was not made by the coach as a ploy to bolster school spirit, instead the team was to wear the gold jerseys

because it would be more difficult for opposing players to see the football against the gold background of the jersey. Once the football team began wearing the gold jerseys, the great Minnesota sportscaster Halsey Hall started to refer to the team as the "golden shirted horde" and the "Golden Swarm," and thus came the nickname "The Golden Gophers."

For most of my life, every time I would attend a Gopher game and would sing the Minnesota Rouser, I just assumed that SKI-U-MAH was something that everyone just mumbled during that portion of the song because they didn't know the real words. I was surprised to find out that SKI-U-MAH was the intended word for the Rouser. You see, in 1884 two students

wanted to complete a cheer that started with "Rah-Rah-Rah." They took the word "ski", a Sioux Indian battle cry for victory, and put it together with their condensed version of University of Minnesota, "U-Mah", thus, "Rah Rah Rah for Ski-U-Mah."

Like most children I didn't think my parents had the answers. And when it came to the origins of Gopher traditions, I was absolutely right (I was right about a lot of other things too, but that's a whole other article).

Mark Levine is an attorney with the Minneapolis law firm of Siegel, Brill, Greupner & Duffy. He represents professional athletes in contract negotiations, endorsement opportunities and business matters.



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## 1993 GOPHER FOOTBALL SCHEDULE



Sept. 18	Kansas State .....	7:00 CDT	Oct. 30	Open
Sept. 25	@San Diego State	6:00 PDT	Nov. 6	@Illinois .....
Oct. 2	Indiana .....	7:00 CDT	Nov. 13	Michigan .....
Oct. 9	Purdue .....	6:00 CDT	Nov. 20	@Iowa .....
Oct. 16	@Northwestern.....	1:00 CDT		
Oct. 23	Wisconsin (Homecoming) .....	6:00 CDT		

## When he wants to learn about Gopher Sports...



### Carl Eller reads SPORTSNEWS

Carl Eller was a University of Minnesota first team All-American tackle and runner-up for the Outland Trophy. He played 15 years for the Minnesota Vikings as part of the famed "Purple People Eaters." He was named Rookie of the Year, the NFL's Most Valuable Lineman twice, All-Pro five times, All-NFC five times, played in six Pro Bowls, nine Conference Championships, four Super Bowls and was nominated to the NFL Hall of Fame three times. Today he is the Executive Director of Triumph Life Center, a drug treatment facility with offices in the Twin Cities. Eller is pictured reading SPORTSNEWS in his St. Paul office.



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### Blockers and Tacklers from page 1

The role of the offensive lineman, of course, is fundamentally to clear a route for the running backs and protect the quarterback. "I do some pulling," Will said, "but mostly pass blocking and holding down the fort on the end of the line" (the left end, next to the tight end).

Run blocking sounds simple enough. "We try to keep our feet and stay on the man," Will said. "Even if you don't get tremendous push, if you stay on the man... we've got some really good running backs who can find the holes." But pass blocking sounds like simply enough. "Basically," Will said, "you take two steps back, so that the defensive lineman has a running start at you, and you've got to try to stop him. Everyone thinks the offensive line is so easy anyone can do it. I always say, you try to stop a 270 pound defensive lineman coming at you full speed. It ain't that easy."

There is no glory in this job, Will noted. But you keep giving it all you've got. "You get your hands smashed and your arms beat up," Will said, "and you get really sore. But you gotta keep going, because without us there's no offense." Asked about his perspective on the defensive linemen, Will had this to say: "They're a little more athletic. They're quicker off the ball...more agile. We may be a little bit stronger."

Of course, defensive linemen have somewhat more latitude in line play. "We can use our hands too, to a certain extent," Will commented. "You learn how to counter their grabbing and pulling...use it to your advantage." How long can Will keep defensive linemen off the quarterback? "As long as it takes," he said. "I'll hold till the quarterback throws the ball, if he holds it all day. That's my job."

Having asked Doyle Cockrell, a defensive tackle, about holding, we asked the same of Will. "Every offensive lineman in the country holds," he said. "I don't really know how you can pass block without holding. It'll always happen. It's a matter of whether you get caught or not." Will sees the offensive line as the focus of the team. And he likes what he sees. "We're coming together as a unit to set the tempo for the offense and the whole team... We've got a new strength coach—Kevin Yoxall—and I think our whole team is in the best shape it's ever been in." But especially the offensive line, according to Will. "Coming into this year we had running tests to make sure we were in shape, and every offensive lineman passed them. We try to set the work ethic."

Will's pride of being an offensive lineman is clear in this, too: "If the offensive line can keep the pressure off the quarterback, so he has all day to throw, and control the line of scrimmage so the backs can run, the game is in their hands."

But the mental toughness is hard to fathom. "This has been the best year for not having any serious injuries," Will said. "In the spring we only had one blown knee."

Will has no time for pre-season rankings. He simply said that they are better than that, adding that a number of games against outstanding opponents last year were close enough to shock a lot of people. "No one goes out to lose," he said.

Like all the players, Will is unreservedly enthusiastic about Coach Wacker. He mentioned the Coach's positive attitude, and how excited he gets for his players when they do well, without screaming at them when they don't. Will is not unmoved by the fan support, or lack of it. "It makes it so much easier when our fans get into it," he said. "If people could see how hard we work, they would appreciate it more and come to more of our games. That's the way it always goes, I guess," he admitted. "Hopefully, this year we can make it to a bowl game. That's one of our goals. It'd be really fun to do, I think."

A lot of other people think so, too, Will.

(Will Wangerin is majoring in Agricultural Marketing. He may continue with football. If not: "I told my parents if I never played a down of football, as long as I got an education, I did all right.")

*"We're coming together as a unit to set the tempo for the offense and the whole team..."*

*We've got a new strength coach —Kevin Yoxall— and I think our whole team is in the best shape it's ever been in."*

—Will Wangerin

### Aches & Pains



Guest Columnist:  
Lars Engebretsen, MD

Q Approximately one month ago I sustained a twisting injury to my knee while playing volleyball on the beach. I immediately felt a pop and was not able to walk off the field without assistance. Overnight my knee swelled and the next morning I felt stiff. A few days later I went to see a physical therapist. I still have a swollen knee and it doesn't feel right. What is the problem and what should I do?

A When a young patient has a twisting type of injury in a sport like volleyball and is not able to walk off the field and the next morning has extensive swelling in the knee, the swelling in the knee represents bleeding.

In the majority of cases, that is in approximately 60-70% of acute injuries resulting in blood in the knee, the cause will be a torn anterior cruciate ligament. That ligament is the most important stabilizer in the knee and is frequently injured in sports like volleyball, basketball, and soccer. A torn ligament results in bleeding, pain and after a while, the feeling of the knee not being stable.

The second most common injury in this case would be a meniscal tear. The meniscus has its blood supply from the capsule and when the meniscus is torn near the junction of the capsule it bleeds. This leads to extensive swelling and sometimes to a locked knee.

A third possibility would be a small cartilage injury with attached bone.

A fourth possibility would be a dislocated or partially dislocated kneecap.

Under any circumstances, you need to see a doctor and subsequently an orthopaedic surgeon. The treatment will usually, after a clinical exam including an x-ray, consist of anti-inflammatory medication, elastic wrapping and icing, and crutches for a few days. The physician will then reexamine the patient and usually at that time it is possible to make a diagnosis.

The answer to the question above then is that the patient probably has a major knee injury and should be seen by an orthopaedic surgeon.

Our guest columnist, Dr. Lars Engebretsen, is an orthopaedic surgeon and faculty member in the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery at the University of Minnesota. Dr. Engebretsen is a specialist in Sports Medicine and is a consultant to the University of Minnesota Men's Hockey Team.

If you have sports medicine related questions, please send them to:

Aches and Pains c/o Dr. Arendt,  
SPORTSNEWS, 386 N. Wabasha Street,  
Suite 1040, St. Paul, MN 55102

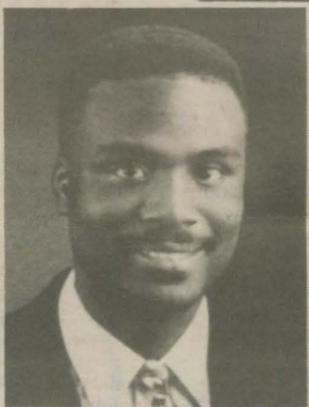


By Greg Jackson

**HOCKEY**—The Golden Gopher Alumni Legends Hockey Game was the first public event to be held in the new Mariucci Arena, a \$21 million state-of-the-art facility. The game, which was played on August 21st before a capacity crowd of 7538, featured over 60 former Golden Gopher All-Americans, Olympians and professional hockey players. It was a once-in-a-lifetime event. All-Americans John Mayasich and Neal Broten served as honorary captains for the two teams which wore 1950's era replica jerseys similar to the home jerseys that the varsity team will wear this season at home games. The new Mariucci Arena has excellent sight lines, seats with good leg room instead of cramped backless benches and an Olympic-sized ice sheet.

**FOOTBALL**—Strong Safety Dan Li Santi, the 6-1, 212 pound junior from Manalapan, New Jersey, cut his arm when he fell into a glass door requiring surgery. He will miss the entire season.

Li Santi will be missed. He was number one on the preseason depth chart at strong safety and listed as a "physical player." In 1992 Li Santi was an Academic All-Big Ten selection and played in 11 games with a total of 35 tackles. In 1991 he returned three kickoffs for 60 yards and had his best game against Illinois when he was credited with five tackles.



**BASKETBALL**

Watch junior Jayson Walton this year. He could be the Gopher Basketball team's biggest surprise. When the Gophers defeated the Finland national champion Kotka Basketball Club at Gent, Belgium two weeks ago, Walton led all scorers with 16 points.

Walton, 6-6, 212, was an Honorable mention Big Ten selection last season who

played in 31 games (with 29 starts), averaged 11.9 points and 6.3 rebounds per game and led or tied the Gophers for the team high in rebounding in 15 games. He registered a career high 21 points in the win over Northwestern. Walton, a Parade All-American high school star, will be 21 on October 1st. He is a communications major who enjoys listening to jazz, reading and watching movies in his spare time.



Jayson Walton



Gopher football fans will again see the Fanfare Band, a part of the Gopher Marching Band, as they perform during the third quarter of each home football game. The Fanfare Band consists of at least two members from each section of the band.

**BAND DAY**

When the Football Gophers play Kansas State on September 18th in the Metrodome it will also be Band Day, the annual event where high school band members from Greater Minnesota join with the University of Minnesota Band to play The Rouser and other familiar songs. The bands will sit in the upper deck of the south end zone and the more than 1100 musicians will be led by Eric Becker, the talented Director of the University of Minnesota's Marching Band.



Jon Wefald, former Minnesota Commissioner of Agriculture and now President of Kansas State University.

**KANSAS STATE FOOTBALL GAME**

When the Gophers host the Kansas State Wildcats on Saturday night, September 18th in the Metrodome, a familiar face to Minnesotans will be sitting in the Kansas State cheering section, Dr. Jon Wefald, president of Kansas State University. Wefald was the Minnesota Commissioner of Agriculture in the Governor Wendell Anderson administration from 1971-1977 when he left to become President of Southwest State University in Marshall, Minnesota. He stayed at Southwest until 1982 when he became Chancellor of the State University System (seven Minnesota Universities) where he stayed until 1986 when he became president of Kansas State University. The highly energized Wefald has never missed a Kansas State football game and is known on campus as one of the athletic department's biggest boosters. The first and only time the Gophers and Wildcats met was in Memorial Stadium on the Minneapolis campus on October 29, 1960 when Minnesota trounced Kansas State, 48-7.

## Football Profiles

**MARK SMITH**

Running back  
6-1, 205, Sr.  
New Orleans, Louisiana

Mark Smith earned his third varsity letter last season—his best game was against Michigan State when he rushed eight times for 40 yards and one touchdown—In the 1991 season, Smith was injured but in sporadic play caught nine passes in only seven games. He rushed for 77 yards on 17 carries in the Purdue game and caught four passes for 32 yards. In his first season (1990) he led the Gophers in rushing with 700 yards. His best performance came against Northwestern when he carried 32 times for 169 yards and two touchdowns. Smith is majoring in psychology and hopes to eventually attend law school.



Mark Smith

**JEFF ROSGA**

Free Safety  
6-1, 197, Sr.  
Roseville, Minnesota

Jeff Rosga played in all 11 games last season. He had two games with eight tackles (Ohio State and Wisconsin) and led the Gophers with two interceptions. Rosga is considered one of the best students on the squad. He was a member of the Academic All-Big Ten Team the last three seasons and was also a member of the District V All-American Team the last two seasons. In 1991 he played in seven games and was credited with 12 tackles. In the Pittsburgh game he made nine stops with two solos. Rosga is majoring in business administration.



Jeff Rosga

**DARRELL CUNNINGHAM**

Defensive End  
6-2, 240, Jr.  
Detroit, Michigan

Darrell Cunningham has great speed as a pass rusher. Coaches say he has good skill and determination and should be seen stopping the opposition quite a bit this season. In 1992 he played in 10 games and was credited with five solo tackles. Cunningham is majoring in journalism.



Darrell Cunningham

**CHRIS DARKINS**

Running Back  
6-1, 209, Soph.  
Houston, Texas

Chris Darkins was one of three pure freshman to letter last season. He made his first collegiate start against Iowa. Darkins scored the only touchdown of the season against Illinois on a 27-yard reception. He also ran back seven kickoffs for 124 yards. Darkins has good speed, great hands out of the backfield and excellent cutback moves in the open field. He plans to major in business.



Chris Darkins

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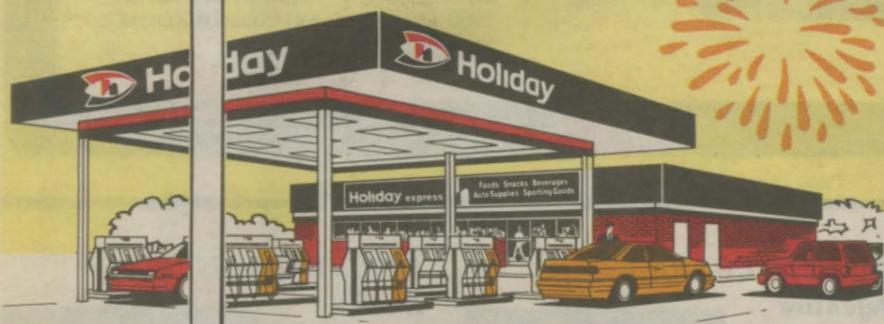
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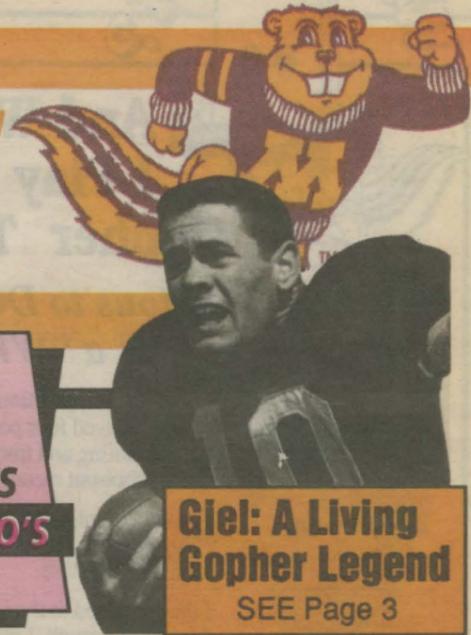
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# SPORTSNEWS

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VOLUME 5/NUMBER 2



## Aggression and Control: The Center's Job

by Pat O'Regan

Necessity sometimes determines who plays a position on a football team. Neil Fredenburg came to the U as an offensive tackle, then was moved to offensive guard during spring practice in '91. That year, his sophomore year of eligibility, he started four games as a guard, before being lost for the season with a knee injury. But the Gophers had outstanding guards in addition to Neil (Rogers, O'Brien and Thome), and needed a center. So, in the first year under Coach Wacker, Neil became the Gopher's center.

Sometimes these changes work out; other times they don't.

Happily for the Gophers -- and luckily -- Neil had the rare combination of skills and temperament required to play the center position. As the Gophers continue into the '93 season, Neil is snapping the ball and blocking the on-rushing nose guard and middle line backer.

To play center means first of all to execute the same precise operation perfectly on every play -- to snap the ball. As Neil understated it, "A big thing with Coach Wacker is no fumbled snaps." Presumably "no" doesn't mean "only one a season."

So the center must have a cool temperament coupled with the capacity to switch in an instance to fierce competitiveness when the play gets underway.

"You must be aggressive to play center," Neil said, "but only to a certain point. In order not to get beat, you have to hold back at first to see what's happening."

Beyond that, Neil summed up the characteristics of a center succinctly: "You have to be strong (he's 6'5" and 284 with a 335 pound benchpress) and nimble (he played center on his high school basketball team) and quick (he threw the shot and discus in high school). You also have to be smart -- quick-thinking -- to react quickly to blitzes and play calling."

The center's job gets down to helping the guards in blocking the defensive linemen. Most often, Neil said, he is taking on the nose guard or middle linebacker.

Asked about the aggressive reputation of middle linebackers, Neil only said, "Yeah, they're aggressive."

Pass blocking, Neil pointed out, requires the center to "be attentive, sit back and wait. If you attach too aggressively, he'll swim right by you." But run blocking demands aggressiveness. "The toughest assignment for most offensive linemen," Neil said, "is run blocking, one-on-one. You have to drive the guy off the ball. Hit him and drive him back, if there's any way at all to do it. I get my left hand up immediately and follow with my right hand after the snap. Then I stay in front of my man and keep my feet moving."



Neil Fredenburg

All this gets complicated, because the defensive linemen and middle linebacker execute maneuvers called stunts and games. As Neil explained, "A stunt is executed by the middle linebacker and defensive lineman. The lineman drives to the right (or left) and the linebacker goes the other direction. In a game, the nose guard goes one way and another defensive lineman goes where the nose guard was, or vice versa."

He said the center had to be quick-thinking. "You look for cues from the defense," Neil went on. "Where they line up on us... If the middle linebacker is close, it may be a blitz. If he's back in his normal position, it may be a stunt."

Going into the season, Neil was optimistic about the prospects for the Gophers. "We

Continued on Page 6

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Giel: A Living  
Gopher Legend

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## The Story of a Walk-On

by Pat O'Regan

*This article was written before Aaron Osterman was sidelined indefinitely with a bleeding ulcer. On Monday, October 11th, Osterman was having stomach cramps which continued the following day. At practice on Tuesday he complained about the intense stomach pain he was experiencing while doing stretching exercises and a short time later he was rushed to University Hospital by ambulance where he underwent surgery.*

*Doug Locy, Gophers trainer, says he is uncertain whether Osterman will be able to play the remainder of the season.*

In the Big Ten, recruiting is fundamental. Outstanding prep football players are scouted through their high school careers and, when they become eligible, are lured with scholarships from many universities. Most of the Gopher football starters came to the U by this route.

The Gophers football team has, however, a handful of walk-ons -- players who have made the team, but have been given no financial aid whatsoever. Occasionally, a walk-on becomes a starter.

Going from walk-on to starter is the story of Aaron Osterman, the Gopher's split end.

You have to wonder if somebody missed something in Aaron's case. He was an outstanding high school athlete, playing football (free safety and split end), basketball (guard) and baseball (pitcher and left field). In his senior year he caught 48 touchdown passes for 980 yards, setting single season school records in both categories and earning All-State honors in football, as well as basketball.

But, "actually I didn't get very much exposure at all," Aaron recalled. "I had schools come to the high school and talk to me. But nothing concrete developed... I was planning on going to the U of M Morris. I knew I'd start all four years there. And then one day I just decided I wanted to try to go to the U. I wanted to see if I could play there."

If anything, walk-ons would seem to require more self-confidence than players offered scholarships. Aaron certainly doesn't lack confidence. "I always thought that I could start in the Big Ten," he said. "It never really



Aaron Osterman

crossed my mind that I wouldn't be able to."

But getting on the team, let alone starting, is another matter. In any case, in his freshman year Aaron tried out for the team and hit a road block. "When I got to the U," Aaron related, "they told me I had a hernia. I couldn't practice until I took care of it. So I went home and took care of it, then watched practice until I could participate."

He ended up practicing with the team for half his freshman season.

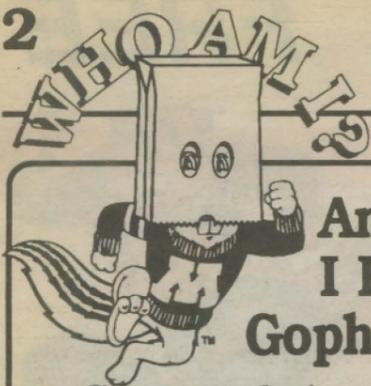
But what moved the coaches to let him on the team at all? "Well, actually, it's like they have nothing to lose," Aaron said. "I guess in their minds they thought I'd be a good scout team player." (The scout team runs the plays of the week's opposition against the Gopher defense.)

Aaron was red-shirted his freshman year, retaining four years of eligibility.

But in spring practice his status was much the same. "I had a good spring game," Aaron re-

Continued on Page 7

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## And What Part Did I Play In The Golden Gopher Tradition?

**Congratulations to DONALD L. FOX of Plymouth, MN a "Who Am I?" winner!**



Tom Brown

I graduated from Minneapolis Central High School in 1954 where I played four positions in football and was a member of the swimming and track teams. In 1953 I broke the state high school shot-put record with a toss of 55'4".

I didn't complete my freshman year and instead joined the Navy where I played two seasons of football at the Great Lakes Naval Base.

I then returned to the U of M and started playing football for Murray Warmath. I played both offense and defense and had some great years. In 1960 our team had the eighth best defensive record in American collegiate football. I was named an

All-American and received the Outland Award for the nation's top interior lineman. I was also named the Big Ten's MVP and was runner-up to Navy's Joe Bellino for the Heisman Trophy.

I'll never forget that day in 1960 when we beat Iowa. Going into the game they were rated number one and we were number two. We were 1 1/2 point underdogs. We had an unbelievable game that day. I was in on just about every tackle and my pass rush was never better. We held Iowa to only 46 yards in the air and won the game 27-10. That win propelled us into the number one spot on both the AP and UPI polls and eventually led to the National Championship.

After graduating I played for the British Columbia Lions in Vancouver. I was voted All-Canadian Lineman Of The Year in 1962, 1963 and 1964. In 1964 we won the Grey Cup and I was voted the MVP.



### WHO IS THIS MAN AND WHAT PART HAS HE PLAYED IN THIS SEASON'S GOLDEN GOPHER FOOTBALL SUCCESS?

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### Athletic Director MCKINLEY BOSTON Says...

Over the past couple of weeks we've experienced some very exciting football with two wins. Our record this season is good. We are 3-4 overall and 2-2 in the Big Ten. This win here in Evanston was our first victory on the road after 13 straight

losses going all the way back to 1990. Of course, it's better to win, but win or lose, Coach Wacker is generating a lot of enthusiasm and sense of community with this football team. It's all coming together. We're excited. It's great sports entertainment. I am very pleased with Coach Wacker and his coaching staff and very proud of our athletes.

*Ed. note: Dr. Boston spoke to SPORTSNEWS outside Dyche Stadium in Evanston, Illinois after the 28-26 win over Northwestern.*

### Coach JIM WACKER Says...

**Q** When recruiting a potential high school student-athlete, which element do you consider the most important: a) athletic ability, b) academic ability, c) character, d) another?

**A** This question has identified the three most critical concerns we have when recruiting any student-athlete. They have to have outstanding abilities and attributes in all three areas. We want a young man with unquestionable integrity and character. He obviously has to have a sound academic background and be

able to make it academically at the University of Minnesota.

He has to have the athletic ability that gives us the chance to win a Big Ten championship. The key is going to be finding athletes that fulfill all three of these areas. That basically is what recruiting is all about.



## Letters



### POOR CHOICE OF WORDS

When Minnesota defeated Indiana State we were happy although we would have liked to have seen a blow out. Actually, the score wasn't that bad. I'll take a win anytime.

Sure there were lapses on the part of the defensive line but overall the Gophers looked pretty good. The passing game was exceptional.

I hate to hear people like Sid Hartman or the headline writers in the Minneapolis paper say the win was "ugly." A win should never be called ugly. It is a poor choice of words.

*Ed Note: Coach Jim Wacker said this after the win over Indiana State: "The win may not have been the prettiest, but we will take them any way we can get them and hope we can build on it. What the heck-we better take our 17-point win and count our blessings."*

Robert Fishman  
Minneapolis

### THOSE WHO TEAR DOWN THE DOME ARE ALL WET

My wife and I took our three children to Evanston to see the Minnesota football team play Northwestern. We were reminded how fortunate we are to play our games in the Dome. Anyone who still talks about playing in the "beautiful outdoors" should have been with us. It rained and rained and rained. The local stores sold out all of their rain gear including umbrellas and plastic bags. On top of that, there was inadequate parking near the stadium. We discovered that all of the parking lots adjacent to the stadium were for permit parking only. None of the traffic police could tell us where to park.

So, to those who tear down the Dome and who still yearn for those "good old days" in Memorial Stadium, I say to you-you're like we were in Evanston—ALL WET!

Janus Fleming  
Minneapolis

### GENDER EQUITY ISSUE IS HURTING ENTIRE ATHLETIC PROGRAM

I know people will misunderstand what I am going to say but I feel someone needs to stand up and speak out on this issue of gender equity. While those that are advocating for this position are to be commended, the idea is being taken too far. To drastically cut the football program by limiting the number of walk-ons would be doing a disservice and injustice to many athletes such as Aaron Osterman (just one walk on of many in the program) who has developed into one of the Gophers best players.

Chris Voelz, the women's Athletic Director, is pushing so hard on this issue that she is turning off just about every sports follower in the state. She is somehow neglecting to realize that as the men's football program goes, so goes the entire sports program at the University of Minnesota. She should keep in mind that her program only raised about \$70,000 last year and her annual budget was about \$4 million. This means that the gate receipts from men's football and basketball as well as the tax payers of Minnesota need to support her programs. Chris, you should back off and support the vast majority of people in this state. The gender equity issue that you're pushing is hurting the entire athletic program at the University.

Rob Williams  
Minneapolis

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## Where Are They Now?

### Giel's Accomplishments as a Gopher Athlete May Never Be Equalled

By Len Levine



Golden Gopher from 1951-1953.

Paul, one of Edward and Marion (both deceased) Giel's four children, was born and raised in Winona, Minnesota. He was educated in the Winona schools and took an early interest in sports participating in "everything from sandlot, midget leagues, American Legion all the way through Winona High School where he was an All-State halfback in football (his senior year) and a star pitcher leading his baseball team to the Big Nine Championship.

After graduation in 1950, Giel was widely sought after by six pro baseball scouts. He says he always dreamed of going to the University of Minnesota and felt he could make it on the baseball team and hoped he might also make the football squad.

"When I thought about football I would see before me the likes of Leo Nomellini, Gordy Soltau, Bud Grant and Billy Bye and then think I could never make it in a league with those kinds of athletes," Giel says today.

Bye, a football star in the late 1940's remembers meeting Giel when Giel was a senior in high school and he was a senior at the U of M. Bye and his teammate Jim Malosky had just completed a great football season (1949) and were invited to judge a winter carnival beauty contest in Winona. "I met this very youthful looking kid (Giel) who looked like he just stepped out of the shower and was 13 years old and asked him what his plans were when he graduated from high school and he told me very directly that he wanted to attend the U of M and play baseball. He said he knew he could play Big Ten baseball but didn't think he was big enough to make it in Big Ten football. After talking to me a few minutes, I could see that he was carefully looking me over and then said we were about the same height and if I could make it he thought he surely could too." From that moment on Giel's life changed and so did the Golden Gopher football history books.

Giel enrolled at the University in the fall of 1950. Freshman were ineligible to play varsity sports and he used this first year to get his weight and strength up and establish himself in school.

Shortly after the football season had finished, it was announced that Wes Fesler, the great Ohio State coach, who had a Big Ten Co-Championship and Rose Bowl victory to his credit, would assume the head football coaching position at Minnesota.

Giel's first game as a Gopher in 1951, on the day of his 19th birthday, was against the Washington Huskies and the great Hugh McElhenny. He says he had "the jitters" all through the first quarter but finally "shook it off" and took command of the team from there on. He rallied the Gophers from a 19-0 deficit to a 20-18 lead with just three minutes left when

The University of Minnesota sport's program has had some great athletes and memorable performances but it may very well be that none can equal what Paul Giel accomplished during his three years as a

McElhenny caught a pass near the sidelines and ran in for a touchdown. The Huskies won the game, 25-20 but Giel had established himself. He went on from that game to set a Big Ten record of 1079 yards combined running and passing (the Gophers finished the season 2-6).

**"Everything I have today I owe to the University of Minnesota. Playing football and baseball gave me opportunity, a solid education and lasting recognition."**

- Paul Giel



Paul Giel, 1993

The following season the Gophers were 4-3-2 and Giel's performances were again very impressive. One play in the Purdue game was typical of his accomplishments the entire season. On an abortive pass attempt, he broke loose from three Purdue tacklers to run 64 yards through the entire Purdue team for a touchdown. The game ended in a 14-14 tie. In another game that season against Wisconsin, with the Big Ten title and an invitation to the Rose Bowl at stake, Giel was never better. He equaled a conference record in handling the ball 49 times, passed for 167 yards, ran for 85 yards more and averaged 42 yards on 6 punts. The Badgers escaped with a 21-21 tie and a trip to the Rose Bowl. Had Minnesota won either of these ties, which they almost did, they would have shared the Big Ten title. Had they won both, they would have been undisputed champs.

There was great optimism for Giel's senior year, 1953. He won the Chicago Tribune's Most Valuable Big Ten Player Award as well as All-American honors the year before. Almost every front line player from the 1952 squad was returning.

Unfortunately, the Gophers didn't live up to the pre season expectation. They lost three of their first four games and it looked gloomy the week before the next game against Michigan who had defeated Fesler coached teams in 1951 (54-27) and 1952 (21-0).

If Giel had done nothing else in his football career, his performance in the Michigan game alone would have placed him in the history book for all time. Charlie Johnson, a well known Minneapolis Tribune sports writer at the time called Giel's performance against the Wolverines in Memorial Stadium before a crowd of

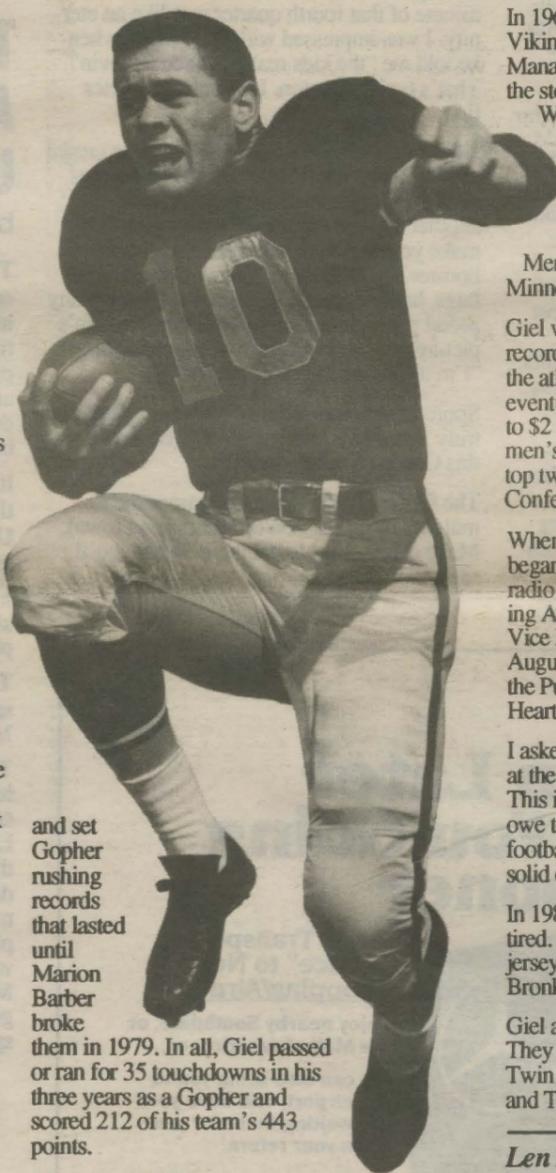
63,509, the "greatest one-man show the collegiate game ever saw." The setting was perfect for an upset. Michigan was favored. It was the 50th year anniversary of the Little Brown Jug. Twelve members of the Gopher squad who played in that first game in 1903 were there to see if Minnesota could score their first victory over Michigan since 1942.

By half time the Gophers were leading 14-0 and Giel had already handled the ball 33 times. In the third quarter Giel returned a 41 yard punt, passed for a touchdown, intercepted a pass (a spectacular one hander) at the Minnesota eight yard line.

By the time the game had ended, the Gophers stunned the Wolverines 22-0 with Giel setting a Big Ten record of 53 carries, completed 13 of 18 passes for 169 yards (only one interception), returned four punts for 59 yards and one kickoff for 24 yards, intercepted two passes which he returned for 34 yards, scored two touchdowns, passed for a third and held the ball on all three extra point kick attempts! Giel personally accounted for an incredible

**398 yards and he took part in 63 plays—better than two-thirds of the team total!**

Giel became the first man to win the Chicago Tribune MVP trophy two years in a row, finished second to Johnny Lattner of unbeaten Notre Dame for the prestigious Heisman trophy



and set Gopher rushing records that lasted until Marion Barber broke them in 1979. In all, Giel passed or ran for 35 touchdowns in his three years as a Gopher and scored 212 of his team's 443 points.

Giel's football feats almost overshadowed his accomplishments on the baseball diamond. He was an All-Big Ten and All-American pitcher his junior and senior years.

After graduating with a degree in Physical Education, Giel had to decide whether he'd play professional football or baseball. He was

drafted in the ninth round by the Chicago Bears of the NFL. He says after much "soul searching" he signed a bonus contract with the New York Giants baseball team where he played for two years including the 1954 World Series which the Giants won in four straight. The following year he was a relief pitcher for the Giants and had a 3.52 ERA. He left baseball at this point for military service fulfilling his R.O.T.C. requirements and was stationed in Stuttgart, Germany. While there he met Nancy Davis, the daughter of a career military officer who eventually became his wife (they were married 36 years on August 24th).

After leaving the Army Giel returned to the San Francisco Giants for the 1958 season, pitched for the Pittsburgh Pirates through the 1960 season, played for the new Minnesota Twins until the mid-season of 1961 when he was traded to Kansas City. It was at this point that he decided to retire from pro baseball after a career of 5-1/2 years.

In 1961 Giel began working for the Minnesota Vikings as an assistant to Billy Bye, the Business Manager. They were a great team and both told the story many times of their first meeting in Winona which convinced Giel he could be a Big Ten football player. He worked for the Vikings until April, 1963 when he became the Sports Director of WCCO Radio where he stayed until December, 1971 when he became the Director of Men's Athletics at the University of Minnesota.

Giel was the U of M's Athletic Director for a record 17 years. When he took over the program the athletic department was \$500,000 in debt. He eventually erased the deficit and built a reserve to \$2 million. Under his leadership the Gopher men's program was ranked consistently in the top two or three overall in the Big Ten Conference.

When Giel left the University in July, 1988 he began charitable fundraising and syndicating a radio sports show across Minnesota. The following April he joined the Minnesota North Stars as Vice President of Corporate Relations. From August, 1990 to the present time, Giel has been the Public Affairs Director for the Minneapolis Heart Institute Foundation.

I asked Giel what playing football and baseball at the University of Minnesota meant to him. This is what he said: "Everything I have today I owe to the University of Minnesota. Playing football and baseball gave me opportunity, a solid education and lasting recognition."

In 1989 Giel's number 10 football jersey was retired. It was only the third time a Gopher football jersey was taken out of use (the other two were Bronko Nurgurski, #72 and Bruce Smith, #54).

Giel and his wife Nancy live in Minnetonka. They are the parents of three children: Paul Jr., a Twin Cities businessman, Gerilyn, a housewife and Tom, an advertising account executive.

*Len Levine earned three varsity letters as a member of the Gopher track team and established several records, one of which (the 60-yard dash) stood for 17 years. He was the silver medal winner in the 1960 Big Ten 300-yard dash championship. Levine was President of the "M" Club in 1989.*

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## SPORTS AT U OF M IS A FAMILY AFFAIR: IT WILL MAKE YOU PROUD

By Len Levine

I was in Dyche Stadium when the Gophers defeated Northwestern in football, 28-26. It was a heart stopping game with the final outcome not decided until the last second of play. It was one of the most breath taking games I've seen in years and I'm sure that's how the more than 2000 cheering Gopher fans who were there felt also. You should have been there!

The Gophers had a pretty fair game, but their mistakes were costly. It was hard to know the exact reasons for some of those miscues because it rained just about the entire game and the field, which is made with an all-weather surface, gets hard and slippery when it's cold and wet.

What made this game special for me was the enthusiasm of the Gopher fans. You would have to have been there to feel it. It may be hard to explain. The cheering and support that I saw that day was unbelievable, unlike anything I've seen from crowds much larger. It's probably due to the closeness of the people in the crowd which consisted of family, friends and ardent boosters. Almost everyone there wore maroon and gold sweaters, caps and more. Even small infants were decked out in maroon and gold outfits. It was like a large family gathering.

Sprinkled throughout the crowd were parents of the Gopher athletes. When a Gopher did something well, you could see people turning towards the athlete's family giving them the thumbs up sign, calling out the athlete's name and cheering wildly.

There was Dr. McKinley Boston, Athletic



*More than 2000 Gopher fans sitting in a constant rain, huddled together under umbrellas and cheering wildly for the Golden Gophers in their 28-26 win over Northwestern.*

Director, whose nerves each Saturday are put to the test. He looks like an expectant father waiting for news in the hospital maternity ward as he paces the stands talking excitedly to Gopher fans. He told me afterwards, each minute of that fourth quarter was like an eternity. I was impressed with Dr. Boston when he told me "the kids really needed this win" That's typical Boston. He puts the athletes first.

After this game, as in all games, a large crowd of family and friends gather outside the stadium to wait for their "heroes." That's another sight to see. It will warm you up and make you glad you're a Golden Gopher booster if you're there. You will see a lot of hugs, handshakes and kisses. You'll see many proud parents wearing buttons with the son's picture on it and sweaters which proclaim, "I'm a Gopher football mom or dad."

Sports at the University of Minnesota today is truly a family affair. It's great to be a part of this Golden Gopher tradition.

The Gophers play two away games the remainder of this season (at Illinois and Iowa). Make every effort to get there. What you'll see will make you proud.

## There's Something Special About Playing Sports For The University Of Minnesota

by Greg Jackson

There's something special about playing sports for the University of Minnesota. I saw it when Clem Haskins had a senior's night and the parents of his players were introduced. The players, Coach Haskins and the parents all met at center court and as each player was introduced they all hugged each other. It was one big family affair.

It left an impression on me. There's something special about playing sports for the University of Minnesota. I know that similar kinds of togetherness occurs on other teams.

For the past two years I've noticed the cohesiveness that exists among Gopher football players, their parents and the coaching staff.

There's something special about playing sports for the University of Minnesota. Maybe this story explains the reason why.

The Gophers travelled to Pennsylvania to play highly rated Penn State for their first Big Ten contest. It was a historic event for the Nittany Lions and going into the game they were more than three touchdown favorites. The Gophers did very well in a losing effort. There were many bright spots and with a few changed plays they might have won the game. But what was really gratifying was what I saw in the Minnesota cheering section. There, huddled together waving maroon and gold banners and sporting Gopher shirts and caps, were more

than 300 loyal Gopher fans including many parents. It was a real commitment on the part of the parents and other fans, because Happy Valley is literally in the middle of nowhere. It's hard to get there from anywhere and sits about two hours from the closest major city in Pennsylvania. And how about all those fans that chose to make the one day trip by charter airplane? They really demonstrated their loyalty. The plane left at 5:00 Saturday morning and didn't return until 11:00 that night.

Imagine how the players felt when they took the field and saw more than 95,000 Penn State fans cheering for them. As one Gopher said, "It didn't make any difference to us. We came to play and we had our own cheering section with us. We had our parents and cheerleaders and hundreds of loyal fans.

There really is something special about playing sports for the University of Minnesota.

Those parents who made the trip included: Dave Rosga (Jeff #5), Bob and Karen Reem (Matt #67), Don and Jean Walker (Trevor #97), Tom and Jane Tangen (Mark #89), Mike and Sandy Conzemius (Justin #23), Marvin and Harriet Levine (Tony #85), Tony and Jean Vertin (Dave #88), Denny and Bonnie Williams (Scott #50), Jim and Carol Osterman (Aaron #30), Gene and Helen O'Brien (Pat #77) and Neal and Ellen Dalen (Eric #87).



PART OF THE MINNESOTA CHEERING SECTION AT PENN STATE:

From L to R: Front row- Ginger Shegstad, Mario Navarro, Christy Faison, Sam Owens, Shauna Dorholt, Marcus Neal. Back Row- Marvin and Harriet Levine, Gene and Helen O'Brien, Neal and Ellen Dalen, Jim and Carol Osterman

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## The Next Door Neighbors You Love To Hate

By Mark Levine



What is it about playing the Badgers that brings out the worst in everyone? One older man who has attended virtually every Gopher-Badger

football game since the early 1930s made the following analogy: "It is like having a relative who you like, but not enough to ever want to see be successful. So every time you get together, no matter how miserable your life is, you have to reach deep down, pick up the pieces and out do him, or you'll never hear the end of it." I thought that was a little strong, but then I talked to some more hard-core Gopher fans all of whom basically said, "....as long as we beat Wisconsin."

tion it was played with. Midway through the third quarter, the Indiana score was announced. Instead of quitting, the Gophers really poured it on, scoring two touchdowns within minutes of the announcement. It is safe to say that tempers on both sides were ignited. Minnesota had just lost the opportunity to go to Pasadena and the Badgers were suffering through a winless season. The rest of the game was filled with a lot of all out brawls. The only player ejected was Wisconsin's Stu Voigt (as in the Minnesota Viking's Stu Voigt). Another interesting point: Minnesota's place kicker at the time was All-American defensive end and future Timberwolves president Bob Stein. He hit 3 out of 3 extra point attempts on the afternoon.

Perhaps the biggest victory over the Badgers was the 17-14 upset in 1984. It was the first time the Gophers had beaten the Badgers in seven years. In front of a capacity crowd of 78,000 at Camp Randall Stadium, the Gophers shocked the 19 point favorites who were overlooking Minnesota and thinking Rose Bowl. This was one of the best Wisconsin teams ever. Five players on that team were drafted in the first two rounds of the NFL draft the following year, including All-Pro Al Toon. A victory over the Gophers would have virtually assured the Badgers of going to one of the premier bowl games if not the Grand Daddy itself. The hero that afternoon was a wiry quarterback named Rickey Foggie. He scored on two touchdown runs of 35 and 43 yards. Some say that loss to the Gophers was the start of the downfall of the Wisconsin program which hasn't been the same since. The late Wisconsin coach Dave McClain said about the game, "It's a tough loss to take. Maybe the toughest one ever in my 25 years of coaching."

And Gopher fans wouldn't want it any other way.

Mark Levine is an attorney with the Minneapolis law firm of Siegel, Brill, Greupner & Duffy. He represents professional athletes in contract negotiations, endorsement opportunities and business matters.

Every season regardless of team records, this is a big game. It has been that way ever since the first meeting between the two schools in 1890 when the Gophers annihilated the Badgers 63-0. The bragging rights still belong to the Gophers, they lead the series 55-39-8.

As the rivalry grew, the "W" Club from the University of Wisconsin, in 1948, decided a trophy symbolic of the rivalry should go to the winner of each season's contest. The symbol they picked was a colorful axe which represents the one used by the larger than life, legendary Paul Bunyon. The axe went to Minnesota in 1948 and has been passed back and forth ever since.

At the end of the 1967 season, Minnesota and Indiana had identical 5-1 records in the Big Ten. A Minnesota victory over Wisconsin in the final game of the season coupled with an Indiana loss to Purdue would give the Gophers the Big Ten crown. Although the Gophers beat Wisconsin 21-14 it was a bittersweet victory. Indiana beat Purdue. So even though the two teams shared the Big Ten title, Purdue would be going to the Rose Bowl.

What makes this game so memorable is the emo-

## Gopher Golfers Could Have Best Season Ever

Since U of M Golf Coach John Means took over the program in 1990, the program has soared into the "big leagues."

The Golf team has seen their team's stroke average reduced by over 15 strokes and last season the Gophers won three team titles and placed in the top five in eight of the 13 tournaments in which they competed. The Gophers placed third in the Big Ten Championships and fifth in the NCAA regional tournament earning them the right to compete in the NCAA Championships where they finished in a tie for 20th, their best finish in 21 years.

Coach Means says this year's team could be the best ever in the history of the University. The Gophers opened their season with a good showing in the Falcon Invitational which was held at the Air Force Academy. With 24 teams participating, the Gophers fired a three-round score of 901 to tie for third with Mississippi, 12 strokes back of the winner Colorado. Boise State, which had led through the first two rounds, finished second with an 893 score.

Coach Means says, "This could be a very exciting year for us. We only lost one player (Joe Gullion) from last year's team which was the best in Gopher history. With a little luck and hard work, I believe this year's team could even be better." Last year the Gophers finished 20th in the NCAA finals.

Already things are looking up. Last month the Gophers fired a final round score of 289 to finish fourth at the New Mexico State/Coco Cola Classis in Las Cruces, New Mexico. It was a strong team effort with all five starters contributing. Aaron Barber (Jr., New London, MN), Jonathon Kelly (Jr.,



Mark Hanson

Mankato, MN), and Mark Hanson (Jr., Cedar Rapids, Iowa) all tied for 11th with scores of 220, while Captain Phil Ebner (Sr., Hudson, Ohio) was one stroke back at 221 and tied for 15th.

In the Northern Intercollegiate golf tournament held in Ann Arbor, Michigan on October 9th, Barber continued to show his potential. He posted the low score for the team at 224 which was good for a tie for 19th overall. Senior captain Ebner was next at 231 followed by Hanson who posted a 232 score, freshman Scott Keeping with 236 and junior Jonathon Kelly who came in with a 238.

The Gophers are led by Ebner and fellow returning letterwinners Hanson and Kelly. Other Gophers who will be counted on include Mark Halverson (So., Fargo, N.D.), Scott Keeping (Duncan, British Columbia, Canada), Rob Kerr (Pointe Claire, Quebec, Canada), Troy Schroeder (Medford, Wis.), Brad James (Brisbane, Australia) and Ryan Woytassek (Breckenridge, Minn.).

# First.



Gary Rebstock



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Joe DiGiovanni

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## The Men Behind The Scenes

By Marty Martinez

Some of the greatest talent in football coaching is at the University of Minnesota but with the exception of head coach Jim Wacker you probably will never hear their names on TV, read about them in the paper or even recognize them if you saw them. Together these men have a combined total of 101 years of coaching experience. These are the men behind the scenes:

**OFFENSIVE COORDINATOR—BOB DEBESSE.** He also handles the Gopher RUNNING BACKS and SLOT BACKS. He played for Jim Wacker at Southwest Texas State where he won three letters and was named to the 1980 Texas All-Academic Team. After graduation he became a graduate assistant and was part of Wacker's team that produced two NCAA Division II national champions. He accompanied Wacker to TCU and was the quarterback and running back coach and also worked as the Horned Frog offensive coordinator. In 1990 he was named the Southwest Conference Offensive Coordinator of the Year.

**MARC DOVE** is the DEFENSIVE COORDINATOR and also works with the LINEBACKERS. He won three varsity football letters at Texas Tech University, was named All Southwest Conference twice and was voted the SWC Defensive Player of the Year in 1971. Dove was the defensive secondary coach for two years with Texas Tech after graduation and then went to South Carolina (1975-1977) where he also coached the defensive secondary. He became the defensive coordinator at Mississippi State (1978-1983) and North Carolina (1984-1987). In 1988 he joined Jim Wacker at TCU as defensive coordinator. During his coaching career, Dove has been involved in eight post-season bowl games.

**SCOTT BROWN** is an assistant coach who works with the DEFENSIVE LINE. He was a star defensive lineman and linebacker at Adams State College in Colorado where he was a two-year co-captain and a four year let-



1993 FOOTBALL COACHING STAFF

Back Row: Noel Mazzone, Bob Rohde, Gordon Shaw, Scott Brown, Buddy Wyatt, Dave Skrien and Chip Garber  
Front Row: Joe Pannunzio, Kevin Sumlin, Bob DeBesse, Marc Dove, Kevin Yoxall and Head Coach Jim Wacker

erman. After graduation he became a graduate coaching assistant at Adams State and served as the linebackers' and defensive line coach and eventually became the defensive coordinator. In 1980 Brown became the defensive line coach at Southwest State University under Coach Wacker and moved with him to TCU in 1983 where he stayed until joining Wacker at the U of M.

**CHIP GARBER** joined the Gopher staff last season working with the DEFENSIVE BACKS. Garber was a two year starter and three-year letter winner at Maryland where he played on three Atlantic Coast Conference championship teams and participated in four post-season bowl games including the 1977 Hall of Fame Bowl against the Gophers (he had two tackles, one assist and broke up a

pass attempt as the Terps starting defensive right end). In 1980 Garber joined the coaching staff at Southern Methodist University (SMU). Two years later he moved to Kentucky where he coached the wide receivers and defensive backs. In 1990 he coached the defensive backs at Mississippi State and joined Coach Wacker as the defensive backfield coach in 1991.

**NOEL MAZZONE** is the QUARTERBACK coach. He played quarterback for the University of New Mexico for three years and finished fifth in the nation in total offense in 1976 and 11th in 1977. He still holds many New Mexico and Western Athletic Conference records. After one year as a graduate assistant at New Mexico (quarterback coach), Mazzone was the quarterback coach at Colorado State for four years. In 1987 he joined Jim Wacker at TCU working with the quarterbacks, wide receivers and running backs.

**JOE PANNUNZIO** coaches the TIGHT ENDS, a position he's held since joining Coach Wacker's staff in 1992. He won four varsity football letters as the starting quarterback at the University of Southern Colorado where he was named to the All-Conference team and was a two-time conference total offense leader. After graduating in 1982 he began a four year coaching assignment as offensive coordinator at Mesa, Colorado College. In 1985 he became the tight end, wide receiver and special teams coach at the University of Kansas. Pannunzio was the offensive coordinator at Mesa during the 1988-1989 seasons and joined Coach Wacker at TCU for the 1990-1991 seasons.

**GORDON SHAW** was picked to coach the OFFENSIVE LINE during the winter of 1993. He had been the offensive line coach for the previous two seasons at Wyoming. Prior to that he coached at Idaho (1989-1990) and before that at the University of Northern Colorado (1982-1988). Shaw was an offensive center at Cal Poly at San Luis Obispo and went on to serve as a coaching graduate assistant. He stayed for two years before moving to Northern Arizona. He is in much demand as a participant in football coaching clinics across the country and is regarded as an authority on offensive and defensive line techniques, strength training, the kicking game and academic counseling.

**KEVIN SUMLIN** coaches the WIDE RECEIVERS. He was a four-year starter at Purdue and was a Sports Illustrated All-American pick in 1985. He first coached at Washington State (1989-1990) as a graduate assistant working with the linebackers and wide receivers. He went on to Wyoming where he was the wide receiver's coach (1991-1992).

**BUDDY WYATT** joined the Gopher coaching staff last year and is coaching the DEFENSIVE ENDS. He played for Coach Wacker at TCU where he won four letters as a defensive tackle and after graduation became a part of TCU's coaching staff. Wyatt played two seasons of pro ball and then returned to TCU and assisted Wacker during the 1991 season.

**DAVE SKRIEN** is the ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT to Coach Wacker and coordinates the on campus football recruiting program and serves as the football team's liaison to support groups and alumni. Skrien played football and basketball for the Gophers and was the team captain as a full-back in 1950 under Bernie Bierman. He played two seasons with the Winnipeg Blue Bombers in the CFL and coached at Albert Lea High School, Ball State, Boise State, British Columbia, Edmonton and Saskatchewan. His BC Lions and Saskatchewan teams won three Western Championships and his Lions captured one Grey Cup.

**BOB RHODE** has been the football strength and conditioning coach since 1979 and was promoted to HEAD STRENGTH AND CONDITIONING coach this year. He is also in charge of all football travel and oversees the operation of all department weight facilities. He was a star football player at Wisconsin-Stevens Point and played one year with the NFL's Denver Broncos.

**KEVIN YOXALL** succeeded Rhode as the HEAD FOOTBALL STRENGTH and CONDITIONING coach. In 1987 Yoxall began his strength and conditioning coaching at TCU in 1987 and was hired by the U of M in 1993. He is a competitive Olympic weightlifter and powerlifter and named All-American in 1983. In addition, Yoxall was a Region IX powerlifting record holder in 1982-1983 and a 242-pound class Texas State Drug Free Powerlifting Champion in 1988-89-90.



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## Center's Job from page 1

have 17 returning starters," he said, "and a favorable schedule... On the offensive line, we have three returning starters (Rogers, Vertin and himself). I think we have a good chance at a bowl game."

If they get there, not a little of the credit, according to Neil, should go to the coaching staff. "Wacker is a great coach," he said, "and his staff are great coaches and teachers." In particular, Neil mentioned of-

fensive line coach Gordon Shaw and offensive coordinator Bob DeBesse.

Neil contended that the center position requires such intense concentration that he scarcely notices the fan support, though sometimes, he said, "It gets really loud."

Winning might make it even harder for him to concentrate.



## BASKETBALL

By Greg Jackson

The Gopher men's basketball team plays Rice in the opening round of the pre-season National Invitation Tournament (NIT) on November 18th. If the Gophers win they will play at newly renovated Williams Arena two days later against the winner of the Alabama State-Georgia game. The winner of that game advances to the semifinals on November 24 at New York's Madison Square Garden where the championship game will be played two days later.

## CROSS COUNTRY

Talk about "inching" out your competitor. In the opening Cross Country Meet against Iowa and Wisconsin last month, Minnesota's Curt Kotsonas finished .05 seconds behind the winner, Jason

held on Oct. 2nd at the Les Bolstad/U of M Golf Course, the Gophers finished ninth with Mark Narveson leading the way with a 21st place finish with a time of 25:17. Kotsonas and freshman Rick Obleman (Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada) also turned in very good performances with a 39th place finish (25:44) and 42nd (25:49) respectively.

It was Gophers co-captains Narveson and Kotsonas again who led the Cross Country team, this time to a third place finish in a 12-team field at the Central Collegiate Championships held at Kalamazoo, Michigan on Saturday, October 16th.

Narveson ran a personal best with a time of 25:08. Kotsonas was fourth with a personal best time of 25:12.

Casiano of Wisconsin in the 8000 meter run. Casiano's winning time was 25:10 and Kotsonas finished with 25:15.

In the Minnesota/Pepsi Invitational

## JON JELACIC DEAD AT 56

Jon Jelacic, 56, of Fridley, defensive end and captain of the Golden Gopher Football squad in 1957, died in his sleep last month at his cabin on South Twin Lake, about 18 miles northeast of Bemidji.

Jelacic, born and raised in Brainerd, Minnesota, was a star on the high school football team and Brainerd's state championship basketball team.

In his senior year as a Gopher, Jelacic's defensive effort was so tenacious in the game with Indiana that his coach Murray Warmath, credited him with leading the Gophers to a 34-0 win.

After the University, Jelacic was drafted by the NFL and played with the New York Giants and with the Ottawa Rough Riders in the Canadian Football League. The Rough Riders won the Grey Cup. He later played with the Oakland Raiders and was named Outstanding Defensive Raider of the Year.

When his pro playing career had ended, Jelacic continued in football as a scout for the Atlanta Falcons and Green Bay Packers.

Jelacic is survived by his wife Linda, children Angelia Erickson of Hastings; Gina Jelacic of Avon, Colorado; Jon G. Jelacic of Ecuador and Jolie Jelacic of Minneapolis; his mother Emogene Gideon of Minnetonka; a brother, Steven of Scottsdale, Arizona; sisters Stephanie Jelacic of Spring Lake Park; Roseanne Jelacic of Andover and Victoria O' Reilly of Plymouth and one granddaughter.

## REMAINING 1993 MEN'S CROSS COUNTRY SCHEDULE

Oct. 23	MARATHON SPORTS INVITE	
Oct. 30	BIG TEN CHAMPIONSHIPS	
Nov. 13	DISTRICT CHAMPIONSHIPS	(E. Lansing, Mich.) ..... 11:00 A.M.
Nov. 22	NCAA CHAMPIONSHIPS	(Bloomington, Ind.) ..... 10:30 A.M.
		(Lehigh, Pa.) ..... 11:00 A.M.

## Walk-On from page 1

lated. "One of the guys got hurt and I had to play in his place. I had four catches, which was good for a running team. But nothing came of it."

And in Aaron's sophomore year (freshman year of eligibility) he had the same role as the year before -- playing on the scout team. Though he suited up for all the home games, he never got into a game. Something may have been dawning on the coaches, however. Before the last home game, the head coach (Gutekunst) pulled Aaron aside and asked about his eligibility, apparently thinking of giving him a chance if it wouldn't blow a year of eligibility -- but nothing came of it.

"It helped that I never really had any doubts," Aaron explained. "Even though the old coach never really gave me a chance, I got a lot of positive feedback from my fellow players and friends. So I just kept plugging away."

Then things changed. Coach Wacker took over following Aaron's freshman-eligibility season. As Aaron recalled, "When the new coaches got here, we did a lot of conditioning and they liked what they saw in me. I was quick.... So in spring practice they moved me up to the second team and then to the first team -- which blew my mind! I was just in awe and having a lot of fun."

So last year, in his sophomore year of eligibility, Aaron started every other game, bringing in the plays in split time with the slotback receiver. He caught 41 passes for 592 yards and one touchdown, averaging 16 yards per recep-

tion. That lone touchdown was a 59 yard reception and run in the final game of the season against Iowa.

(It needs to be said that the Gophers are unusual among Big Ten teams in having, as of the second game of the season, six walk-ons who are starters. The left guard (Rob Rogers) is a walk-on, as is the tight end (Eric Dalen), the slotback (Tony Levine) and Aaron. The place-kicker (Omar Salas) and the punter (Ron Holty) are also walk-ons.)

In his role as the starting split end, Aaron lines up as the outside receiver, on the ball, at either side of the line, depending on the play call.

When Aaron blocks, it's the corner-backs he comes down on. "I like to stay on my feet," he said. "I don't like to try to cut them."

As for pass catching, it's a precisely choreographed under-taking. There's no improvisation in running the routes at all, Aaron explained. You stay strictly within the system, or else the system doesn't work. Moreover, often the ball is in the air before he turns to look for it. Timing is the key.

Pass catching requires quickness. "You have to stop and turn around quickly," Aaron said. The idea is to come to a stop or make some other move quickly, catch the ball and get up to speed again very fast. In his case, from 0 to 20 yards, he said, "I'm quick."

Catching the ball is a matter of instinct and reflexes. "I just run the route," Aaron said, "and when the ball comes react, instead of saying, 'Here it comes!' If I stop to think, it

gives me a lot of trouble."

It can't always be easy to just react. "If the quarterback throws the ball up in the air over the middle," Aaron explained, "and you gotta jump up and expose your ribs, you can get tattooed. But it'll hurt more if you drop it."

As to running with the ball, Aaron had this to say: "After I catch the ball, I assess the situation. If it's one-on-one, I'll try to make a move. If I see three guys, I'll try to find a crease and make as much as I can."

Aaron is entirely upbeat about the Gopher's chances for the remainder of the season. "The offense seems really strong," he said. "We've moved the ball well and have a good chemistry.... Everybody's healthy on the offensive line."

Of Coach Wacker, Aaron said, "He's great. Very positive and disciplined at the same time. His style of coaching and that of his staff make you want to work hard for him."

The receivers coach -- Kevin Sumlin -- also has had a positive influence on Aaron. "He's a very good coach," he said. "He coaches us during the week, and then on Saturday he lets us play. He doesn't over-coach during the game. On Saturday, you gotta let us play."

Aaron unabashedly declares that the Gophers will have a winning season topped off with a bowl game.

If they do, this walk-on split end will be one of the reasons for it.

(Aaron Osterman is majoring in Biology. His plans are to teach and coach basketball and football at the high school level.)

## Aches & Pains



Elizabeth A. Arendt, M.D., Director University of Minnesota Sports Medicine Institute

**Q** Is it better to exercise before or after eating?  
Arthur C. West St. Paul

**A** Very good question, Arthur. First, let me say that the specific answer depends on what type of exercise, the duration of exercise, level of exertion, and how long after the last meal.

In the ideal situation, one who is about to set out and perform prolonged aerobic activity (running, biking) will have eaten a predominantly carbohydrate meal approximately three hours prior to activity. The reason for the wait is so that the meal can be digested and be readily available in the blood for the muscles to use. If the meal is high in fat and/or protein, digestion is longer and the energy will not be available for use. Exercise too soon after eating will not allow the energy to be in an available form and may leave undigested food in the stomach, which is not always a comfortable feeling. Remember when exercising at a high level most of the blood is shunted away from the stomach and there is a considerable slowing in digestion. The blood the stomach would have used for digestion is instead used by the exercising muscles.

In the situation where aerobic exercise is prolonged (greater than 90 minutes) it is beneficial to take in some easily digestible carbohydrate solutions during exercise to replenish the depleted stores. In rapid aerobic activities, little of the above makes any difference.

Another point of interest is that carbohydrate ingestion 30 minutes after prolonged aerobic exercise is helpful in rapid replenishment of the muscle energy stores.

To summarize, the answer is ideally one should exercise three hours after eating a carbohydrate meal (75-100 grams). If the exercise is prolonged (greater than 90 minutes), then periodic ingestion of carbohydrates during the exercise may delay muscle fatigue. Lastly, replenishment 30 minutes after exercise is helpful in replacing muscle stores of energy.

*NOTE: The column for this issue is authored by David Wang, MD, a staff physician at Boynton Health Service at the University of Minnesota. Dr. Wang's areas of medical interest are Orthopaedics and Sports Medicine.*

If you have sports medicine related questions, please send them to:  
Aches and Pains c/o Dr. Arendt,  
SPORTSNEWS, 386 N. Wabasha Street,  
Suite 1040, St. Paul, MN 55102

## Football Profiles

### MOSES TAYLOR

Free Safety  
6-0, 200, Jr.  
Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.



Moses Taylor is one of the quickest Gophers on the football squad. He was a sprinter at Aquinas High School in Ft. Lauderdale where he earned all-county recognition and made it to the state meet. In high school football he scored 58 points and caught passes good for a total of 855 yards as a junior and earned all-conference recognition following his senior season. Last year as a Gopher he played in all eleven games. Over the past two seasons he's been credited with eight tackles. After the Purdue game Taylor's stats are: 6 games played, 10 tackles and 4 assists. Moses is majoring in sociology.

### SCOTT WILLIAMS

Long Snapper  
6-4, 230, Soph.  
Plymouth, MN



Scott was a great football player at Robbinsdale's Armstrong High School where he lettered twice in football and tennis and was named All-Conference Football twice. Scott played in all 11 games as a long snapper last season for the Gophers and recorded two solo tackles against Iowa. He was redshirted in 1991. This season he has played in every game. Williams plans to major in business marketing.

### CRAIG SAUER

Outside Linebacker  
6-3, 213, Soph.  
Sartell, MN



Craig was one of the best football players ever to play for Sartell High School. In his senior season as the team's quarterback he carried the ball 65 times for 590 yards, completed 158 passes for 2,134 yards and 21 touchdowns and made 64 tackles as a safety. He earned four letters in football and three in baseball, was All-Conference three consecutive seasons in football and basketball and All-Conference, All-Area and Associated Press Player-of-the-Year in football his senior season and was an "A" honor roll student. When Craig came to Minnesota he was moved from quarterback to linebacker although last season he took one snap at quarterback against Colorado. After the Purdue game Sauer's stats are: 6 games played, 21 tackles, 13 tackle assists, 7 tackles for losses for 25 yards, 1 sack for 3 yards and 1 touchdown.

### ADRIAN CRAWFORD

Split End  
6-2, 205, Soph.  
Milwaukee, Wisc.



Adrian is an all around person. At Wauwatosa East High School he lettered twice in football and three times in track and powerlifting. He was the Wisconsin state Champion in powerlifting, state qualifier in the high hurdles and was an Eagle Scout. He came to the U of M as a walk on quarterback and was moved to split end and redshirted in 1991. He had a good spring practice and has been seeing action this season. Adrian is majoring in African American studies.

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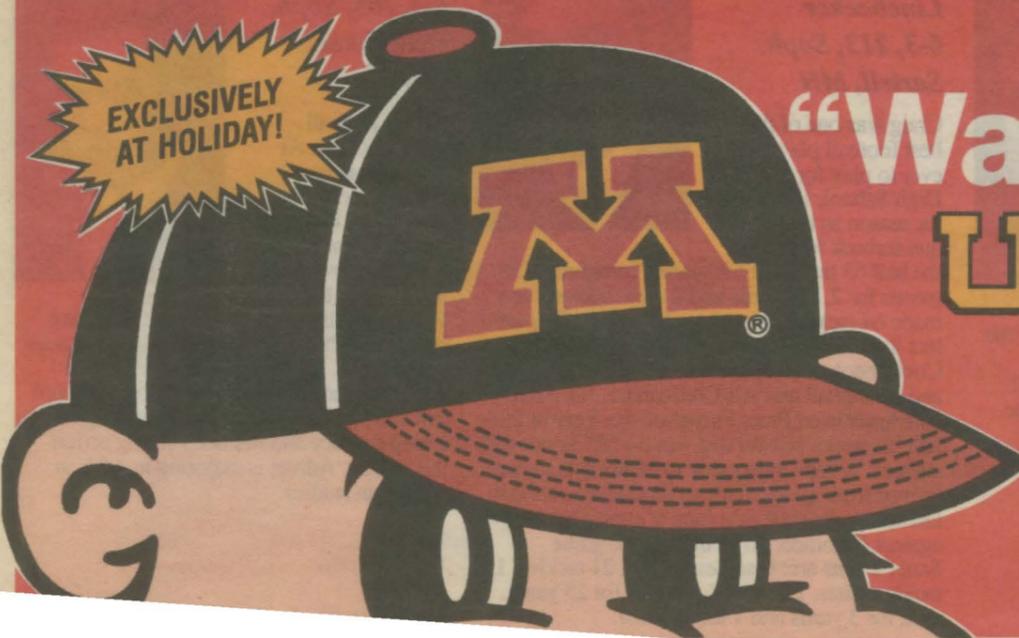
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VOLUME 5/NUMBER 3

## Football at the U of M is on the Upswing A New Era of Football Greatness is Beginning

by Len Levine

Football at the University of Minnesota is on the upswing. Before the season began, there were high hopes that the Jim Wacker coached team would show some promise and many felt this would be nothing more than a building year. What it turned out to be was something different. It was a season marked with thrills and great performances. In fact, this season will no doubt go down in the history books as the beginning of a new era of Golden Gopher football dominance.

It was clear from the beginning when the Gophers played Penn State in Happy Valley that there was a spark of promise on this young team. And then it began to show. Names like Eckers, Schade, Carter, Douglas, Osterman, Rogers, Garrison, Conzemius, Levine, Rosga, Chalberg, Darkins, Hunter, Veit, Sauer, and many others began to be heard in coffee shops, offices and factories across Minnesota. Pride in Gopher football was returning and the people of Minnesota had something to brag about as in days past. All across the state people began wearing maroon and gold again, on the street and at the



Running Back Antonio Carter

Metrodome. Sportscasters talked about the Gophers with respect.

For the past several years, sports fans said Gopher football was uninspiring and dull. When the Gophers got behind, it was unusual to see them pull out a win. People left the Dome in the third quarter. This year was different. The offense was potent, leading the Big Ten in passing offense. There was creative play calling and a firm determination to win. No one quit until the clock ran out or one of the coaches got doused with the Gator Aid bucket.

For a while it looked like the offense would carry the Gophers. The defense wasn't holding up its end of the effort. There were lapses and missed cues. That all changed about midway in the season beginning with sensational wins against Purdue (59-56), Northwestern (28-26) and Wisconsin (28-21), all games that took your breath away.

Yes, there were heart breaking moments that will be remembered like the loss to Illinois in the last 12 seconds, the lopsided wins by San Diego State early in the season and Michigan in the final home game, and the frustrating year end loss to Iowa after leading the

Continued on page 6

### 11 Gopher Football Players Named Academic All-Big Ten

Eleven members of the 1993 University of Minnesota football team have been named to the Academic All-Big Ten honor squad. It is the largest number ever named in a single season for the Golden Gophers. Dr. McKinley Boston, a strong supporter of academic excellence for Gopher athletes said, "This is just another example of the importance we're putting on academics here at the University. We know the importance of good athletics combined with good academics. It's a winning combination and will pay off today and in the future. We'll continue our efforts along these lines. I'm proud of the football players who've made this list and all of those in other sports who have also done as well."

NAME	YEAR	POS	GPA	MAJOR
MIKE CHALBERG	3	K	3.53	Business Admin.
JUSTIN CONZEMIUS	3	DB	3.68	Business Admin.
OMAR DOUGLAS	4	WR	3.21	Indiv. Studies
CHRIS FOWLKES	3	OL	3.31	Philosophy
PETER HIESTAND	3	LB	3.38	Economics
TODD JESEWITZ	3	OL	3.16	Pre-Business
BEN LANGFORD	2	LB	3.28	Pre-Business
JEFF ROSGA	5	DB	3.60	Business
CRAIG SAUER	3	LB	3.05	Business Admin.
MARK TANGEN	2	TE	3.09	Pre-Business
LANCE WOLKOW	5	LB	3.50	Business Admin.

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## Tennis Team Aiming For More National Honors: IT LOOKS LIKE ANOTHER WINNING SEASON

by Marty Martinez

Golden Gopher tennis under Coach Dave Geatz has been one of the most successful programs in the country. Over the past few years, the Gopher netters have compiled a 61-13 record earning them the Big Ten crown the past two years and a second place finish in the 1991 season.

Geatz's philosophy is clear. He sets realistic and attainable goals. "Our goals every season are to be one of the top 20 teams in the country, to have a team GPA over 3.0, to win the Big Ten Championship and to make it to the NCAA Championships," Geatz says. "These team goals never change from year-to-year and all of our players know this."

Geatz plans to build the team up with re-



Paul Pridmore

turning players but will also be looking to newcomers to give them consistent play so they can continue in their leadership role. This could be another winning season.

The team will be led by returning lettermen

Continued on page 6

## Gopher Swimmers are Tops in the US

by Greg Jackson

The Golden Gopher men's swimming and diving team opened the 1993 portion of their schedule last month in action against the Nittany Lions of Penn State in University Park, Pennsylvania.

The Gophers, coached by Dennis Dale who has become one of the most prominent collegiate swimming coaches in the country, have hit the pool with a "splash" as they came off of last season's second place finish in the Big Ten for the fourth consecutive season behind Michigan and went on to place 11th at the NCAA Championships. The Gophers also had their first NCAA individual champion in 20 years when All-American diver P.J. Bogart (Mesa, Arizona) won the event.

As good as Dale's team is in the pool they are equally as impressive in the classroom as they finished third in the nation for Division 1 swimming teams by the CSCAA (College Swimming Coaches Association of America). **Minnesota was the only DIVISION 1 team to finish in the top eleven academically and athletically in the CSCAA poll!**

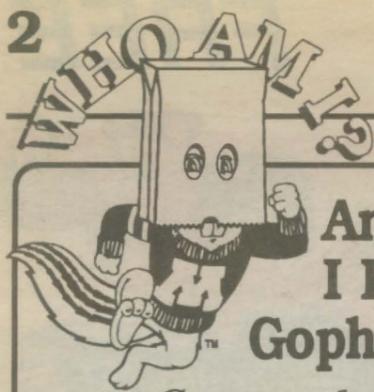
The Gopher lineup features three more All-Americans with senior co-captain Matt Brown (Beaverton, Oregon), sophomore Bernie Zeruhn (Hamburg, Germany), and senior Paul Nelsen (Lincoln, Neb.) who was redshirted last season.

Other returning members of Dale's team include former Olympian and senior Can Ergenekan (Beaverton, Oregon), senior Eric Jorgensen (Rochester, MN), senior Andy Kurtz (Coon Rapids, MN) and junior Darren Heydanek (Hawthorn Woods, Ill.). It's a great group of talented athletes and Dale says he's very optimistic that his team will be at or near the top in the Big Ten championship.



Pat Bogart

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## And What Part Did I Play In The Golden Gopher Tradition?

**Congratulations to Rob Marx of Minneapolis, MN a "Who Am I?" winner!**

I was the first goalie in Gopher hockey history to win the Hobey Baker Memorial Award (awarded to the top collegiate hockey player in the country) when it was presented to me in 1988. That year I was named first-team All-American, the team MVP and first-team All-WCHA.

I hold many goaltending records at Minnesota, including career records for games played, minutes played, best save percentage and most shutouts in one season.

During my three year career at the U of M, our teams posted a 102-34-4 record including back-to-back WCHA Championships in 1988 and 1989. We also had three straight NCAA Final Four appearances.

After leaving the University I was drafted by the Los Angeles Kings where I've played ever since. WHO AM I?

The correct answer from November's "Who Am I?": This man is Bob Eckers, the father of Gopher quarterback Scott Eckers.



1988 Photo



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### Athletic Director MCKINLEY BOSTON Says... "I'm Very Excited About Next Year"

"I'm very, very pleased overall. Going into the year, realistically we looked at it, some of the staff and I talked and I said 6-5 or 5-6

would have been a pretty good year considering everything. We were hoping for a

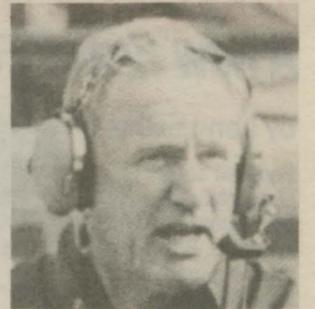
couple of big wins and the homecoming win against Wisconsin really helped. Overall, I think Jim Wacker has done a real good job. Some areas of weakness from last year have been noticeably improved, for example the secondary. I think those guys have played very well this year. I think the football future at the University of Minnesota looks very, very good. I'm very excited about next year."

### Coach JIM WACKER Says... "'94 Will Be The Turn Around Year"

"We've had the patience to redshirt the young people. We've got real talent in the freshmen and sophomore classes. Most of those guys will still be freshman because we did redshirt them. They'll have four years left. I'm really excited about the future of the program. We need to have another good recruiting year. I think we're going to do that. I like the character of this team and I like

their work habits. By next year, I really believe that's going to be the turn-around. You know, this team gave us the chance to really make it happen.

Next year we get a chance to go and make it happen. I'm really counting on that."



## Letters



### GIVE US SOMETHING TO CHEER ABOUT

There was an article in the Minneapolis paper on September 12th which reported that Minnesota Viking players were complaining about the lack of fan spirit, noise and involvement at home football games played in the Dome.

Give us something to cheer about. The past few games the Vikings played were so boring that I almost fell asleep.

Maybe the Viking players, who are overpaid and complaining, should go to the Dome when the Gophers play. They could learn what it's all about.

The answer is: Start playing exciting football and the fans will back you all the way. Play "dull" football and your crowds will be silent and will continue to shrink.

Karl Jurgenson  
Minneapolis

### IT'S A GROSS INSULT

I am very upset with Sid Hartman and Randy Shaver. They both called the Minnesota win over Indiana State "ugly." They should think it over before using that kind of description of a football game.

Remember, these college football players are young men who, for the most part, are playing for the love of the sport and not money. These are not the pros who earn millions.

If you use the word ugly to describe yourself long enough, you probably will wake up one morning, look into the mirror and think YOU ARE ugly.

Give these kids a break. Support the Gophers in a clear and favorable manner. To use a word like "ugly" is a gross insult.

Janine Volinski  
St. Cloud

### PROGRAMS ARE SEPARATE

I've been an avid reader of SPORTSNEWS since it came out many years ago. It's the best thing I've seen which highlights the University's sports program. I know there are many teams and players to cover but will you ever be writing about the women's program?

Phyllis Skoglund  
Minneapolis

*Ed note: Thanks for the compliment. The men's and women's athletic programs at the University of Minnesota are run separately. Each has its own athletic director, budget, etc. The women's program has their own version of this paper called Winner's Circle and can be obtained by contacting Women's Director of Athletics, Chris Voelz, Bierman Field Athletic Building, Women's Athletic Office, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minnesota, 55455.*

### READER APPRECIATES "WHERE ARE THEY NOW?" COLUMN

Thanks to Len Levine and SPORTSNEWS for the article and pictures on Clayton Tonnemaker. His "Where Are They Now?" features are especially appreciated in your welcome publication.

Rand Middleton  
Willmar, Minnesota

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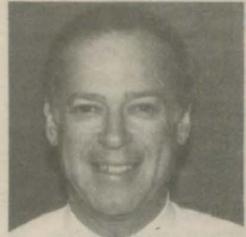
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## Where Are They Now?

# Attending The U Of M Changed McNeil's Life Forever: Today He Heads A Physical Therapy Firm With Four Offices

By Len Levine



Bob McNeil played football for the Golden Gophers as an offensive guard and defensive inside linebacker from 1959-1961.

In the distant replay of memory, I remember McNeil for his intelligence, consistency and rugged play. Unfortunately, with the passing of time, Bob McNeil's name like so many others, has become just another line in the Gopher football history book.

McNeil has quite a story to tell. His journey to Minneapolis did not come easy. But, attending the University of Minnesota and playing football changed the course of his life and started his upward climb to the success he enjoys today.

McNeil's parents were divorced and he spent his early years living with his grandparents (until the age of nine) on a farm in Dunsville, Virginia. His grandfather, a successful farmer, taught him how to plow and do farm chores. After his ninth birthday, McNeil went to live with his mother Corinne in a Philadelphia suburb.

"It was a major adjustment for me," he says. "The streets were rough and the kids were different in the city as compared to the farm. I knew that in order to survive I had to be a part of the crowd." To do that he got involved in sports. Everything from sandlot to stickball, and by excelling in sports he says, "I got the respect of the other kids and my confidence began to grow."

McNeil went to Ardmore (Pennsylvania) Jr. High School where he first became involved in organized athletic competition. Because of his size (he was over 125 pounds as a seventh grader and exceeded the weight limits for participation in 7th and 8th grade football) he was moved up to the varsity. He also ran track and played basketball. He continued to improve in all sports and he says he "knew early on that the better I got, the better chance I'd have to succeed in life."

McNeil didn't know what it was to be in a school with losing teams. Every team he played on won championships. At Ardmore's Lower Marion High School, for example, his football team won the title three years in a row and were never beaten! Pennsylvania sports writers called him one of the best high school football players ever to play in the Philadelphia area. He won numerous honors including first team High School All-American. A highlight of his senior season was the game against cross town rival Halberford High. The city of Ardmore was di-

vided down the middle by County Line Road and depending on which side a student lived determined whether he went to Lower Marion or Halberford. McNeil says the athletes were "all the closest of friends" and both teams were undefeated. When the two teams met for the city championship in 1957, McNeil says life in Ardmore came to a standstill. More than 11,000 people filled the stands and hundreds more lined nearby rooftops to see the game. The players needed police escorts to get on and off the field. Lower Marion won the game by one touchdown and McNeil, a standout at guard and linebacker, was credited for helping get the win. After the season ended, McNeil's phone began "ringing off the hook." He was sought after by virtually every major college football team.

Not only was McNeil a great football player, but was also a member of the school's track team which won the state championship. McNeil ran on the mile relay team which had the third fastest time in the country that year and he also took home two gold medals (440 yard and mile relays) from the Penn Relays. In addition to sports, McNeil was heavily involved in school affairs as a member of the student council and clarinet player in the high school band.

After talking to representatives from schools such as Michigan, Ohio State, Notre Dame, Stanford, Minnesota and every Ivy League school, he narrowed his choices to Penn State and Minnesota.

McNeil says the only thing he knew about Minnesota was what he read in geography books which described the state as a place "for fishing through the ice." Over the course of the next few months, he learned much about the quality of life and opportunities in Minnesota from Minneapolis businessman Herman Lang, president of Marquette Manufacturing Company and an ardent Gopher sports booster. "On his business trips to Philadelphia, he'd stop by my house and talk to my mother and me. He told us about Minnesota and the people who lived there, how a person could get a top quality education at the U of M and how football and that good education could lead to job opportunities later on in life. I remember one day during one of

those meetings, my mother said that the only way I could improve my life was to get a college degree and she felt good about Minnesota. It was then and there that I made the decision to attend the University of Minnesota, get that education and make my mother proud," McNeil says.



Robert L. McNeil, 1993

Being in the midwest in the 1950s and playing football on a virtually all white team was an unsettling experience for the 5'11", 204 pound McNeil he says today. "I was bewildered when I walked on the field for my first football practice and realized there were only two black athletes on the squad (Billy Martin from Chicago and Bob Blakley from St. Paul). It wasn't that I didn't get along with white athletes but I had experienced more interaction between white and black ath-

letes in Pennsylvania and most of my closest friends were black. I just wasn't used to competing in football or for that matter anything else, where there were so few blacks. I had trouble making the adjustment. I felt alone. After a while, I wanted to leave school and go back to Pennsylvania. I even called a coach from Penn State. Minnesota was on the bottom of the Big Ten, they were throwing garbage on Coach Murray Warmath's lawn and I never knew defeat. It was a very hard time in my life and I wasn't doing well." My mother knew my feelings and kept encouraging me to stick it out, not to quit. One night Herman

Lang, who also knew how I felt, took me to dinner and we talked about a lot of things. That night I had trouble sleeping. At 5:30 the next morning I opened my door to leave for the train station. I had had enough. It was dark outside and I could feel the cold wind blowing against my face. Much to my amazement, who should be standing outside my dormitory door but Herman Lang. Instead of getting on the Burlington Northern train that morning, the two of us went to breakfast and my life changed forever." Lang convinced McNeil he should stay in Minnesota, and continue to play football. Soon more black football players started arriving on campus such as Sandy Stephens, Judge Dickson, Bobby Bell and Bill Munsey. McNeil says he began to feel a closeness to these athletes similar to what he had experienced in Ardmore. They all became very close friends, relationships which still exist today. The rest is history. The football Gophers over the next two years compiled a 15-3 overall record including 10-0 and 23-10 wins over Michigan, 27-10 and 16-9 wins over Iowa, went on to win the Big Ten championship, took two trips to the Rose Bowl (winning one, 21-3 over UCLA) and was named the best football team in the nation in 1960.

McNeil graduated in 1962 with both a Bachelor's degree in Physical Education, Math and Health Education and a Masters degree in Education with a strong concentration in Administration. From 1962-1965 he taught Phy Ed at Proviso East High School in Maywood, Illinois and also coached football and track.

In 1965 McNeil began his studies in Physical Therapy training at Northwestern University Medical School where he received his degree a year later. In 1967 he went back to teaching for another year and from 1968-1970 he worked in Chicago doing Physical Therapy work in hospitals, nursing homes and private practice. In 1970 he moved to Atlanta where he became a licensed Physical Therapist. "I still point with pride to the fact that I was the first black in the state of Georgia to have gotten a Physical Therapy license," McNeil says today. He has been in practice there ever since.

McNeil says, "I wasn't a star, I was just a good college football player. At first I was lonely and felt isolated in Minnesota but finally things came together and it was the start of a new life for me. Going away to school (the U of M) taught me how to deal with adversity because life is not all winning. I learned how to bounce back, to deal with life. I've applied that same determination and drive to my professional career and I've been a better person because of my education and sports involvement at the University of Minnesota. I also have to give thanks to my mother for her love, direction, guidance and strong religious upbringing which has molded and shaped my life and has given me the courage, perseverance and determination to overcome all obstacles and adversities and to succeed."

McNeil says that he would tell anyone that is involved in sports that there's a life after the playing days are done "if you take advantage of the educational opportunities that are there. Actually, there's no telling what people can do if they just put their mind to it."

"I'm blessed to have found a professional career that provides some of the same challenges and opportunities for success as I found in athletics. To all those people who influenced my athletic and professional

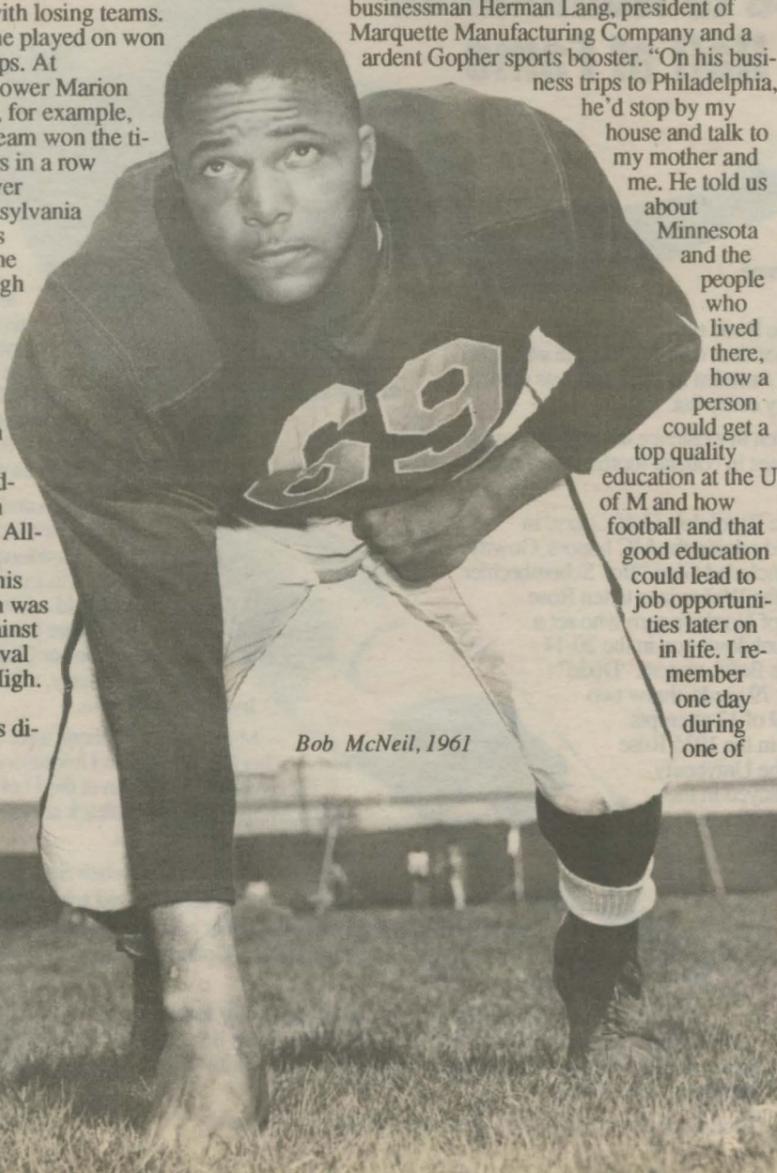
**"I wasn't a star, I was just a good college football player. At first I was lonely and felt isolated in Minnesota but finally things came together and it was the start of a new life for me. Going away to school (the U of M) taught me how to deal with adversity because life is not all winning. I learned how to bounce back, to deal with life. I've applied that same determination and drive to my professional career and I've been a better person because of my education and sports involvement at the University of Minnesota."**  
- Bob McNeil

life, I say thank you and will always be grateful to them."

McNeil is the owner today of four physical therapy companies (serving the entire Atlanta metro area) and employs seventeen people. He has won many awards and has been nationally recognized for his work. Earlier this year he was named the "Outstanding Physical Therapist" in the state of Georgia. He is a tireless worker involved in many civic and community projects and has been an active member of the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, the YMCA Board and the Friendship Baptist Church in Atlanta.

McNeil and his wife Yvonne, a speech pathologist in the Gwinnette County school system, are the parents of two children: son Robert L., Jr. a senior at Georgia Tech University and Valerie, a senior at Duke University.

**Len Levine earned three varsity letters as a member of the Gopher track team and established several records, one of which (the 60-yard dash) stood for 17 years. He was the silver medal winner in the 1960 Big Ten 300-yard dash championship. Levine was President of the "M" Club in 1989.**



Bob McNeil, 1961

## The Man From Burundi

by Pat O'Regan

Burundi is a small country in east-central Africa that borders on Zaire, Rwanda and Tanzania and is washed by Lake Tanganyika. Tropical in climate, Burundi has a four month rainy season and is dry the rest of the year. The capital city is Bujumbura. As you might expect, not many people in Burundi play basketball.

But a few do. And Ernest Nzigamasabo (ZIG-a-ma-SAH-bo), a 6'9", 235 pound forward/center for the Gopher basketball team, did. "I started playing basketball in tenth grade," Ernest related, "and played in Burundi for about a year before coming to the US."

Ernest may be the only player in the Big Ten who didn't play basketball until he was 18.

Soccer, the national sport of Burundi, had been Ernest's first sport. He played it from his early years through ninth grade.

But Ernest picked up basketball quickly. After only a year of play, he came to the US on the strength of his already-apparent basketball talent. Because it was Minnesotans who spotted him and told his father he'd have a chance to play and get an education in the US, Ernest ended up at Mound- Westonka High School. What a change it must have been!

By way of explaining how he picked up the skills of a basketball player so quickly, Ernest said, "It was the only thing I could play. I couldn't play soccer, anymore. I was too big."

Of his high school career, Ernest said, "I did quite well. At least, I got a scholarship to the U."

As a matter of fact, he averaged 24 points and 10 rebounds a game as a senior, was named to the All-State team, and, in a game against Buffalo, scored 51 points.

But, of course, the Big Ten is a different ball-game. "Everyone is outstanding here," Ernest said. "You have to play better in all facets of the game to compete at this level."

"My role," Ernest related, "is to come in when needed and do my part to help the team." And what part of the game are you best at? "I don't want to say..." Ernest said, shunting the question good-naturedly. "The coach could tell you better than I."

No player can be "on his game" day in and day out. The Pros call being "on" being "in the groove." Some days a player can't miss a shot, no matter how unlikely. Other days... Larry Bird missed lay-ups on those days. Good players change their games accordingly.

Ernest understands this aspect of the game. "One day," he said, "you're hot and so you score a few points. The next, you're not shooting well, so you play defense. It depends on how the day is."

When he's on, Ernest shoots mostly from inside the lane, out to the free-throw line. For a big man, he runs the floor well, so he can be available, even on fast-breaks. This year he anticipates improving his shooting percentage. As for free-throws, the nemesis of many a center, he said, "I'm fair, but not great."

Interestingly, Ernest came across as being a student of defensive play. "You win games with defense," he said. "If they don't score, you have to win. To be specific, if both



Ernest Nzigamasabo

teams are shooting 50 percent or less and we hold them under 50 points, we win the game."

To Ernest, basketball is not so much a matter of scoring more points than the other team as holding the other team to fewer points than you score.

Playing defense depends a lot, Ernest said, on the defensive strategy of Coach Haskins. "The coach," he said, "may want you to play behind the guy, or to play in front of him."

But it also depends on the man you play against. "If someone is bigger than you," Ernest related, "you sag off, use your quickness. If he's lighter than you are, you muscle him around."

This can be tricky. "You can lean on him," Ernest explained, "but to avoid fouling you have to stay vertical and not get an advantage or distress the guy. But somebody who weighs 280 pounds you can push more than a 220-pounder." Simply because he moves less.

Ernest contended that though the fans cheer baskets more than defensive play, the former does not do more to move the team closer to victory than the latter.

Though Ernest downplayed his offensive skills, they are considerable. He has a career high 21 points, possesses good low-post moves and a nice shooting touch.

The prospects for the Gopher basketball team going into the



Ernest Nzigamasabo

## Stephens Close to Nomination for Rose Bowl Hall of Fame

by Greg Jackson

Sandy Stephens, one of the greatest quarterbacks in Golden Gopher football history, is being mentioned as a possible inductee into the Rose Bowl Hall of Fame next year.

Stephens led the Gophers to the Rose Bowl twice (winning in 1962) and took the Gophers to a national title in 1960. He was called the best all around football player in America in 1962 and was named First Team All-American on virtually every list.

The Rose Bowl Hall of Fame has been in existence the past four years and already some of the greatest names in college football have been given this prestigious award.

This year's ceremony was held at the Brookdale Golf Course in Pasadena, California with Curt Gowdy doing the MC honors. Gowdy introduced the ten inductees which included Glen "Bo" Schembechler, the great Michigan coach who took the Wolverines to ten Rose Bowl games, Frank Aschenbrenner of Northwestern who set a Rose Bowl record with a 73 yard touchdown run in the 20-14 win over California in the 1949 Rose Bowl contest, "Dixie" Howell, of Alabama who rushed for 79 yards, threw two touchdown passes for 112 yards on 9 of 12 attempts and returned four kicks for 74 yards in the 1935 Rose Bowl contest, and O.J. Simpson of the University of Southern California (USC) who played in the 1968-69 Rose Bowl games and led USC to a 19-2-1 record during his two year collegiate career.

Stephens name has surfaced each year since the award began and the U of M's Athletic Director, Dr. McKinley Boston feels Stephens is getting close. "He is one of the all-time greats to have played football at the collegiate



level and his performances in those two Rose Bowl games stands out among the best," said Boston.

Boston and Stephens travelled to Pasadena together for this event, which was held a few months ago, and were joined there by another former Gopher great, Bill Munsey, who's now living in California.

Munsey and Stephens were high school teammates in Uniontown, Pennsylvania and again at the U of M where Munsey played halfback and also played in those two Rose Bowl games.

Stephens was a 6' 225 lb. senior when Sports Illustrated called him "the most feared triple threat performer in America." He got better each game and blossomed out in the game against Illinois whom the Gophers defeated in Champaign for the first time in 44 years.

Stephens, that day, was unstoppable as he passed for four touchdowns and took the ball in for a fifth in a 33-0 victory. The following week he accounted for 16 of his team's points in a 23-20 win over Michigan, then was credited with the stunning upset over Michigan State, 13-0.

Good Luck Sandy Stephens—you deserve to get this award.

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season could scarcely be brighter. Good as the pre-season ranking is (tenth in the nation), however, Ernest is not over-awed by it. "It means people have respect for the program," he said. "But that's only on paper. We have to show what we can do on the court."

But Ernest added, "We have more people coming back. People with Big Ten experience. Our chances are looking pretty good."

How could anyone in Williams Arena fail to notice the fan support? Ernest notices it. "We're looking forward to the same crowds as last year," he said. "We want to pack the place and give them something to get excited about."

Fan support might even make a difference. "When we're pressing at the end of the game," Ernest said, "and the fans get up and start yelling and cheering, the competition starts to get nervous. It is intimidating."

(Ernest Nzigamasabo is majoring in French and Economics. He speaks six languages: Swahili, Kirundi, Kiawanda, Linga, French and English.)

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## Rare Book Collection Given by Former Gopher Athlete: Says Boston Inspired Him Because of His Emphasis on Education and Athletics

Ever since Dr. McKinley Boston became the Director of Men's Athletics at the University of Minnesota he has stressed the importance of the interrelationship between education and athletics. Student/athlete grades are up and graduation rates are climbing. As a further example of his commitment to academic excellence, Boston coordinated an unusual event, witnessed by more than 33,000 football fans, during the halftime of the Minnesota-Indiana game: the addition of the five millionth volume, *American Hunger*, a rare autobiography, to the University Library.



Archie Givens Jr. presents the rare book collection to U of M President Nils Hasselmo

The gift was presented by Archie Givens Jr., a 1966 U of M graduate, who said, "This is a perfect way to state the importance of the goals set forth by Dr. Boston and his commitment to stressing the ties between athletics and academics."

*American Hunger*, written by Richard Wright, is a rare book not sold to the public and costs \$1,000 to obtain. Givens said he knows of only three other existing copies. It will be placed in the Archie Givens Sr. Collection of African-American Literature and Life which is part of the Special Collections section at Wilson Library on the Minneapolis Campus.

The Givens Collection, which includes 4000 books and pamphlets spanning over 200 years, ranks fourth in the nation because of its rare literature.

The Collection is named in memory of Archie Givens Sr., a prominent Twin Cities businessman, who founded Rainbow Development Company and Willows Convalescent Centers. He died in 1974.

The acquisition of the Library's five millionth volume is a significant milestone in the history of the University, one that has been equalled by fewer than ten other public universities. In addition, University of Minnesota Libraries has the 17th largest overall university collection in North America.

Givens Jr. said that because many people didn't know the Givens Collection existed and the University was beginning a \$5 million Library Endowment Fund to acquire more materials and technology, this presentation was a perfect opportunity to highlight both the commitment of Dr. Boston and his staff and the University's great library system which loans more books to other libraries than any other research library in the country, including the Library of Congress.

Givens Jr. is an "M" man who played football under Coach Murray Warmath as a defensive back in the mid 1960s.

# First.

Gary Rebstock

Robyne Robinson

Joe DiGiovanni

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## GOPHER HOCKEY TEAM IS BUILDING MOMENTUM

After a slow start, the Gopher hockey team is building up momentum for what promises to be an exciting and successful season. With a state-of-the-art \$21 million facility in the new Mariucci Arena, which is drawing praise from hockey fans, Coach Doug Woog's team will put on their usual stellar performance. The Gophers have five returning seniors and five juniors. In all, there are 17 returning letterwinners led by the great All-American defenseman Chris McAlpine (14-9-23). Last year McAlpine led the WCHA in goals scored by a defenseman with 14. Joining McAlpine in the defensive zone will be fellow senior Eric Means (2-6-8), sophomores Dan Trebil (2-11-13), Charlie Wasley (2-5-7), Mike McAlpine (Chris' cousin, 0-3-3) and Greg Zwakman (0-11). Joining these veterans will be Brett Abrahamson and Brian LaFleur.

The Gophers will have two very good goal tenders in junior Jeff Callinan (10-6-5, 3.77) and sophomore Jeff Moen (0-3-1, 3.96).

Up front the Gophers are strong with All-American candidate, senior Jeff Nielsen, the second leading scorer from last year. Joining Nielsen is senior Joe Dziedzic (11-14-25) and junior Jed Fiebelkorn (8-5-13). Feeding them the puck will be centers Justin McHugh, Tony Bianchi, Steve Magnusson, Brian Bonin, Andy Brink and Bobby Dustin.

Hard checking, tough competitors included in the team's efforts this year will find wingers Brandon Steege (4-8-12), Dave Larson (4-3-7) and Jesse Bertogliati (1-0-1). There are six freshman forwards who are fighting for playing time: these include: redshirt freshmen Jim Hillman and Dan Woog. Other good performers to watch this season include Nick Checco, Brent Godbout, Dan Hendrickson and John Hillman.



Jeff Nielsen

## A Football Game Without The U Marching Band Is Like A Football Game Without The Ball

By Greg Jackson

When the University of Minnesota Marching Band performed at the first home football game against Indiana State, it marked the 102nd season of providing musical entertainment during Golden Gopher football games.

It's hard to imagine what it would be like at a football game without the Marching Band. It would be like playing football without the ball.

Like anything else, it might look easy from the sidelines. It might not even seem like there's much to it. But to the 200 members of the Marching Band it's hard work, very hard work. In fact, when we see the Band perform, there's been hours and hours of strenuous preparation the band member goes through to get to that point.

You might ask, how does the band get assembled? It all starts when Director Eric Becher puts out the call to sign up. All interested musicians may apply. From there on the difficult selection process begins. Each person gets an audition and marching test given by the director and his staff. Then, according to Becher, "Everyone makes it regardless of the outcome of their tests with some serving as alternates and others held in reserve on the sidelines."

Once a person has gone through the testing procedures, the musician is expected to attend all of the practices which run at least two hours each day from Monday through Thursday and at least three hours on the Friday night and Saturday morning before a home game. These tests are given at "Spat Camp" which is a gathering together of all the marching band members who assemble ten days before the start of the football season and live on campus at Pioneer Hall during that time. It's at "Spat Camp" where the music and marching drills are learned.

During the fall the Band practices on stage at Northrup and/or a practice field located be-

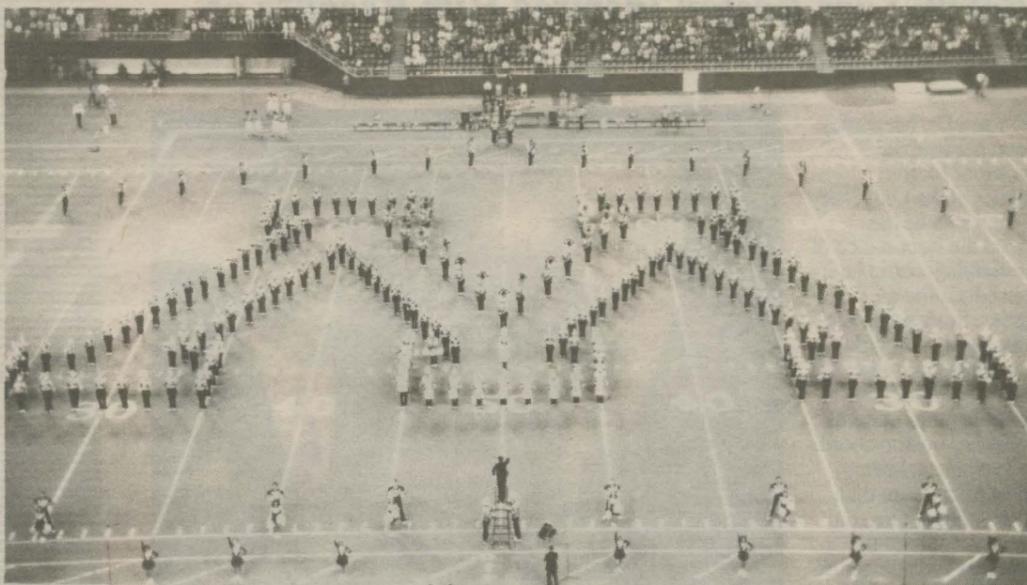
hind the running track at Bierman Field during the week. On game weekends the band goes inside where they practice their formations in the Bierman Field Football building. There are approximately 19 pregame and from 10-25 halftime formations for each performance. Becher says it takes anywhere from 13-25 hours to learn each halftime show.

Once members are assigned a position in the band it doesn't mean they get to keep that spot for the entire year. If they regularly miss practice sessions or fail to "keep in-shape" by practicing their instruments, one of the "regulars" could lose their spot to an "alternate." Challenges for position occur weekly with each musician being rated.

For all of their hard work, Marching Band members receive a letter jacket after their second year. The jacket closely resembles letter jackets worn by Gopher athletes.

The Minnesota Marching Band has been recognized as one of the top five college marching bands in America. With Eric Becher in charge, it's no wonder.

Becher earned his B.A. and M.A. degrees in Music Education from the University of Michigan and went on to become their Marching Band director for nine years. During that time the Wolverines played in four Rose Bowls (they won two) and were accompanied to Pasadena by the band each time. From Michigan, Becher took over the director's spot at the University of Arizona for two years. Then, after two seasons as interim director at the U of M, Becher was named director. In addition to his marching band duties he is also director of the symphonic band and chamber winds and teaches courses in conducting and marching band



techniques. He is a guest conductor and clinician across the country. The marching band performed at the Wisconsin and Michigan home football games and traveled to Iowa for the season finale. On October 30th and 31st, the band played an indoor concert at Northrup Auditorium.

Cassette tapes of the marching band can be purchased in room 194, Ferguson Hall on the Minneapolis campus or by calling 624-2008 (band office).

Congratulations to the University of Minnesota Marching Band. Life at the U of M wouldn't be the same without you!

## Football Greatness from page 1

Hawkeyes in total yards passing 301-120 and total net yards 391-220. But through it all, Coach Wacker and the team never quit. They didn't know the meaning of give



Above: Offensive Guard, Rob Rogers  
Left: Strong Safety, Justin Conzemius



up and it showed. Coach Wacker continued to find the bright spots and kept encouraging his players. He brought out the best in them and they continued to play hard and improve. A mutual admiration developed between player and coach and it rubbed off on every football fan in Minnesota.

Overall, it was a great year. Football at the U of M is on the way back. Next year there will be more games on ESPN and the press boxes will be loaded with pro scouts and media representatives from across the country.

There's just nothing like Golden Gopher football. Add the great Gopher Marching Band, the excitement, and tradition of Gopher football and it's sports entertainment that just can't be matched. It's the best show in town. I can hardly wait for next season.

## Tennis Team from page 1

Erik Donley, Ross Loel, Paul Pridmore and Adam Krafft. Pridmore, ranked 46th in the Rolex pre-season singles rankings, compiled a string of 17 straight wins last season and is working hard to capture the No. 1 singles position. Krafft earned All-American honors with doubles partner Brian Uihlein two season ago.

Geatz has good things to say about transfers Matt Gabler from James Madison University and Tim George who played at No. 3 singles for Bowling Green last season.

Geatz works hard at recruiting. He knows that Minnesota has a great tennis reputation and is a great tennis state. With that in mind, he's searched the world for the finest talent and has in that group Eric Morton and Ben Gabler, the respective state champions from Ohio and Pennsylvania, Vladimir Makatzareya from Moscow, Russia, and Lars Hjarrand from Oslo, Norway, the No. 1 ranked men's singles player in Norway and a member of their Davis Cup team.

The Gophers will face a schedule with at least 25 teams as opponents in addition to their conference schedule.

"I know the talent is there on our team," Geatz said. "If they work hard, I believe it will all come together."



Lars Hjarrand



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By Greg Jackson

## METRODOME RECORD

The Football Gophers have been playing in the Hubert H. Humphrey Metrodome since 1982 and have compiled a 31-36-2 record. Minnesota's best year in the Dome was 1987 when they finished 6-1 at home. The worst was 1983 when Minnesota went 0-5. The best start in the Dome was in 1987 when the Gophers won four straight at home over Northern Iowa, California, Central Michigan and Purdue before losing to Indiana 18-17.

Gopher fans still talk about the big win (31-24) over Rose Bowl bound Iowa in the 1990 season finale and the crushing loss to Nebraska (84-13) in 1983.

## BASEBALL

Seniors Mark Merila (Plymouth, MN), Charlie Nelson (Perham, MN) and Mike Oster (Richfield, MN) were recently named team captains for the 1994 baseball Gophers.

Merila was a second team All-America choice last year after batting .408 and leading the Gophers in almost every category. This past summer he was on a tour with Team USA where he batted .280 with 40 hits. Nelson is a four-year starter in left field and he also was on the summer tour with Team USA where he batted .285 overall and was third on the team in hits with 43. The other captain is Mike Oster, a four-year utility player who can play any of the infield positions as well as catcher. He has a career batting average of .327.



Mark Merila, baseball

The 1994 Gophers schedule has 27 home games split between the Metrodome and Siebert Field. The team opens the 1994 schedule on the road at Georgia Tech February 11-13 and returns for the home opener on

March 4, against Arizona State at the Metrodome in the Oscar Mayer Classic. The Siebert Field opener is set for April 6 against Mankato State. The Pro-Alumni game is set for February 1 at the Metrodome.

## HOCKEY

Golden Gopher Hockey will be broadcast this season on KSTP radio (1500) and seen on Midwest Sports Channel (MSC). All games on radio will be live with former North Star broadcaster and NHL

action. Both contracts, which were signed over the summer, are for three years.

## WRESTLING

The University of Minnesota has been selected to serve as the institutional host for the 1996 NCAA Wrestling Championships at Target Center on March 14-16, 1996.

"We are very pleased that the University of Minnesota has been selected to host the 1996 NCAA Wrestling Championships," said Director of Men's Athletics Dr. McKinley Boston. He added, "The University of Minnesota has a great tradition of success in the sport of wrestling." Coach J Robinson's Golden Gophers finished ninth at the 1993 NCAA Championships and is ranked fourth in the nation coming into this season.

Gopher wrestlers to watch this season include returning All-Americans Willy Short (Sr., 158, Inver Grove Heights, Minn.) and Billy Pierce (So., Heavyweight, Minneapolis, Minn.), Jeff Thompson (So., 142, Great Falls, Mont.), Brett Colombini (Jr., 177, Redwood Valley, Calif.), Chris Berglin (Sr., 134, West Bend, Wisc.), Jason Davids (Fr., 134, Forest Lake, Minn.), Wade Short (167, Inver Grove Heights, Minn.), Joe Block (Sr., 134, LeCenter, Minn.), Chad Carlson (Jr., 150, Willmar, Minn.), and Zac Taylor (Fr., 167, Sandpoint, Idaho).

## SWIMMING TICKETS

The University of Minnesota Men's Athletics department and the Men's Swimming & Diving program will host two of the nation's top swimming and diving events during 1994—the Big Ten Championships on February 24-26 and the NCAA Championships on March 24-26. Tickets for both events are now on sale at the Gopher ticket office located at Mariucci Arena.

For more information on ticket prices and special "all season passes" contact the ticket office at (612) 624-8080 or call the Golden Gopher hotline at (900) 884-UOFM.

## Aches & Pains



Elizabeth A. Arendt, M.D.,  
Director,  
University of  
Minnesota  
Sports Medicine  
Institute

**Q** I pulled a stomach muscle approximately six weeks ago. It seems to get better with my day-to-day activities, but every time I begin exercising it hurts. What should I do?

**A** Stomach muscles can be subject to a strain, just like our larger muscles, such as our hamstrings. They are harder to rest, however, as we use our stomach muscles for activities of daily living, including coughing, sneezing, bowel movements, and lifting ourselves up from the prone position.

One activity to keep in mind as we are trying to rehabilitate this injury back to a painless state would be to work on some stretch techniques for this muscle. Stretching is best done when you are relatively warmed up, and should never be done first thing in the morning when your body and muscles are cold. The second thing that is quite helpful for these stomach muscles is to undergo some strengthening with isometrics. This could be to hold your stomach tight for three or four seconds, or lift your shoulders off the ground in a half sit-up situation, hold it for ten seconds and then relax. This not only works to strengthen the muscle, but recent research shows that isometric contractions also increase the amount of stretch that that muscle can undergo before injury.

Anti-inflammatories may also help, but I believe that your most lasting relief will come from making sure that you are warmed up before you do any vigorous activities with your stomach, undergoing isometric contractions on a regular basis, but in particular, do these for five to seven minutes before you start any practice or game situation. Lastly, a check-up with your family physician or another sports medicine person to rule out a hernia, might be helpful if this does not seem to respond to the above discussion.

I hope this helps.

If you have sports medicine related questions, please send them to:  
Aches and Pains c/o Dr. Arendt,  
SPORTSNEWS, 386 N. Wabasha Street,  
Suite 1040, St. Paul, MN 55102

## Golden Gopher Profiles

### Chad Kolander

Basketball—Jr.—Forward/Center  
Owatonna, Minn.

You'll see Chad all over the court this year. He's an outstanding defensive player who's recognized as a very aggressive rebounder and good shot blocker. Chad is very quick and limber for a person his size (6-9, 225). Chad has played in 59 games during his career with 30 starts. His overall career totals include 327 points for an average of 5.5 and 222 rebounds for an average of 3.8 a game. On January 4, 1992 he scored a career high 16 points against Iowa State and on February 24, 1993 he had his career best effort in rebounds with 10 against Northwestern. Chad is ranked ninth in all-time career blocks with 37.

Chad graduated from Owatonna (Minn.) High School where he led his team to back-to-back Minnesota Class AA titles and the team finished with a remarkable 66-9 record during his career. He's a economics major and is the son of Al and Corky Kolander.



### Chris Brinkworth

Track & Field—Jr.—Shot/Discus  
Bloomington, Minn.

A model for athletes interested in the "weights" is Chris Brinkworth. He's a rugged, hardworking and determined athlete who has built himself up to be one of the top weightmen in the country. This could be a big year for Chris who was "redshirted" last season. His big year was 1992 when he finished seventh in the discus at the Big Ten Outdoor Championships with a throw of 162-10, fifth in the shot at the Big Ten Indoor meet with a heave of 55-0 3/4, fourth in the shot with a personal best toss of 57-9 at the Northwest Open, and runner-up in the discus at the '92 Nebraska Invitational with a personal best of 175-3. Chris, an honor student, was a Scholar-Athlete Award winner in 1991. It was clear in the 1990 State Class AA Track Meet that he was destined for great things. He finished third in the discus and fourth in the shot put. He is majoring in natural resource/environmental studies in the College of Natural Resources. Chris is the son of Robert and Connie Brinkworth.



## IN THE JANUARY ISSUE OF SPORTSNEWS READ ABOUT:

GOLDEN GOPHER BASKETBALL

A 92 YEAR YOUNG FORMER  
GOPHER TRACK STAR

ROY GRIAK'S TRACK TEAM THAT  
MIGHT BE THE BEST EVER

A NEW POLICY BY A.D. BOSTON  
WHICH BRINGS THE COMMUNITY  
AND ATHLETICS CLOSER

THE HOCKEY GOPHERS

A GOPHER WRESTLER FROM A  
FARM IN MINNESOTA WHO  
STARTED AS A SECOND GRADER

A MINNESOTA CONSTRUCTION  
COMPANY AND ITS LASTING  
IMPACT ON GOPHER SPORTS

HOW TO TREAT ANKLE SPRAINS  
AND MUCH MORE.....

### Paul Pridmore

Tennis—Sr.  
North Aurora, Ill.

Paul will be one of the best tennis players in the Big Ten this season. In the pre-season poll he's been ranked 46th in the nation. Last season he ran up a string of 17 straight victories, was 11-1 in Big Ten competition, went 61 with doubles partner Dean Hlushko, played at number 3 singles and ended the season by being ranked 79th in the country.

At Aurora West High School in Illinois, Paul earned all-state honors three straight years and won the singles state championship as a senior. He's majoring in computer science and is the son of Preston and Karen Pridmore.



### Jeff Nielsen

Hockey—Sr.—Forward  
Grand Rapids, Minn.

Jeff is one of the fastest skaters on the ice and last year scored 21 goals to go with his 20 assists. You'll see him all over the ice again this season. As a junior he finished second on the team in scoring, was third with six power play goals, had 11 multi-point games and counted more than three points on four different occasions. At Grand Rapids High School he earned eight letters (3 in hockey and 5 in golf) and scored 54 goals and 53 assists during his high school career. He was drafted by the New York Rangers in the fourth round in 1990. Jeff is majoring in pre-business and is the son of Mike and Darlene Nielsen.



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