

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA



SPORTS NEWS

Bierman Field Athletic Building 516 15th Avenue Southeast Minneapolis, MN 55455 (612) 625-4090 Fax 625-0359

For Immediate Release

August 28, 1996

WEEKLY FOOTBALL MEDIA LUNCHEONS BEGIN TUESDAY

A weekly luncheon/news conference with University of Minnesota Head Football Coach Jim Wacker will be held each Tuesday (except Sept. 24) at 11:30 a.m. throughout the season in the Bierman Building Student Learning, with the first one scheduled for Tuesday, Sept. 3.

Media attending the luncheon will have the opportunity to interview that week's opposing coach via teleconference call. Parking is available in the main lot in front of the Bierman Building.

For more information, call the Media Relations Office at (612) 625-4090.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 10, 1996

FIRST "LUNCH WITH WACKER" TO BE HELD THURSDAY

The University of Minnesota Goal Line Club will present its first "Lunch with Wacker" of the season at the Thunderbird Hotel & Convention Center in Bloomington on Thursday.

Coach Jim Wacker will take a look back at the Northeast Louisiana game and look ahead to the Ball State contest. He will be joined by one of his assistant coaches and two players who will be interviewed by a celebrity emcee. Registration and a social hour at 11:30 a.m. will kick off the festivities, followed by lunch at noon and the program at 12:30 p.m.

The cost is \$13. Those who plan to attend should RSVP to Gina Leonard in the U of M Football Office at (612) 624-1344 by Wednesday. For more information, call Mark Williams at (612) 854-5000.

"Lunch with Wacker" will be held throughout the season at the Thunderbird Hotel & Convention Center the Thursday before each Golden Gopher home football game. After Thursday, the remaining luncheons are Sept. 19, Oct. 17, Oct. 24, Nov. 14 and Nov. 21.



GOLDEN GOPHER MEN'S ATHLETICS

University of Minnesota • Bierman Field Athletic Building • 516 15th Avenue Southeast • Minneapolis, Minn. 55414
Phone: 612.625.4090 • Fax: 612.625.0359 • Director: Marc Ryan • Assistant Directors: Bill Crumley and Brad Ruitter

Gopher Hotline

The Golden Gopher Hotline features daily interviews with players and coaches. It is available to the media 24 hours a day by calling (612) 625-7887. The hotline is broadcast quality and is changed by noon each day. This service is for media use only. The schedule for this week is as follows:

Tuesday, September 3:

Coach **Jim Wacker's** media luncheon

Wednesday, September 4:

Junior quarterback **Cory Sauter**

Thursday, September 5:

Senior defensive tackle **Jerome Davis**

Friday, September 6:

Cross Country Coach **Steve Plasencia**

Saturday-Sunday, September 7-8:

Head Football Coach **Jim Wacker**,
Northeast Louisiana postgame comments

This Week in Gopher Sports

Saturday, Sept. 7

• Football

at Northeastern Louisiana
Monroe, La.
KLBB-AM (1400 or 1470)
Midwest Sports Channel
7 p.m.

• Cross Country

vs. Northern Iowa
Les Bolstad Golf Course
10:30 a.m.



WEEKLY RELEASES

The University of Minnesota Men's Media Relations Office will be producing four separate releases during the 1996-97 academic year. Football, basketball and hockey information will be covered in sport-specific weekly releases, while information on "Olympic Sports" will appear each Monday in this release. Please refer any questions to the Men's Media Relations office at (612) 625-4090.

GET WIRED!

The University of Minnesota Men's Athletic Department is now on the Internet. The World Wide Web site contains press releases, statistics, rosters, schedules and much more information. The Web pages can be accessed at:

<http://www.umn.edu/mica>

Information on every Big Ten school and the conference is also available via the Internet. The Big Ten's home page on ESP- NET SportsZone will be available at the following address:

<http://espnetsportszone.com>



CROSS COUNTRY

1996 CROSS COUNTRY SCHEDULE

Sept. 7	vs. Northern Iowa (Les Bolstad U of M Golf Course)	10:30 a.m.
Sept. 14	UMD Invitational (Duluth, Minn.)	10:50 a.m.
Sept. 28	Minnesota Invitational (Les Bolstad U of M Golf Course)	11:15 a.m.
Oct. 19	Iowa State Classic (Ames, Iowa)	10:30 a.m.
Oct. 26	Marathon Sports Open (Les Bolstad U of M Golf Course)	11 a.m.
Nov. 2	Big Ten Championships (Bloomington, Ind)	11 a.m.
Nov. 16	Dist. 4 Championships (Champaign, Ill.)	11 a.m.
Nov. 25	NCAA Championships (Tucson, Ariz.)	TBA

Cross Country team opens 1996 season: The

University of Minnesota men's cross country team will open its 1996 season on Saturday in a dual meet with Northern Iowa. The 8,000-meter race will begin at 10:30 a.m. CDT.

Obleman to lead 1996 harriers: New Head Cross Country Coach Steve Plasencia takes over a young Golden Gopher cross country team that finished in ninth place at last year's Big Ten championships.

"The big challenge for us is to improve where we've been in the immediate past," said Plasencia.

The first-year mentor will turn to senior captain **RICK OBLEMAN** (Regina, Saskatchewan) to lead his team. The three-year letterwinner finished first for Minnesota and 25th overall at the Big Ten meet last fall. Obleman also earned a spot on the 1995 Fall Academic All-Big Ten team. Junior **TONY RITER** (Shoreview, Minn.) and sophomores **TODD LANDGRAFF** (St. Peter, Minn.) and **RON HOFFNER** (Brooklyn Park, Minn.) add depth and much needed leadership to a team that has eight freshmen on its 15-man roster. Hoffner and Landgraff finished 50th and 62nd at last year's Big Ten meet. Riter's top finish was a 43rd place showing at the Iowa-Drake Invite.

JEREMY POLSON (Duluth, Minn.) and **ERIC HARTMARK** (Duluth, Minn.) are two freshmen expected to make immediate contributions.

Plasencia, who was an alternate marathon runner for the U.S. Olympic team, is eager to start his new career as the Gophers new coach.

"It's a new challenge for me," said Plasencia. "I'm hoping that I can transfer my own motivation, love of the sport and ability to train the runners here."

Plasencia named men's cross country coach:

Former University of Minnesota All-American and two-time U.S. Olympian Steve Plasencia was named head men's cross country coach/assistant men's track & field coach for the Golden Gophers last April.

Plasencia, 39, ran in the 10,000 meters at both the 1988 Olympic Games in Seoul and the 1992 Olympic Games in Barcelona. He narrowly missed a third straight Olympic Team berth after finishing fourth in the U.S. Olympic Marathon Trials this past February and then fifth in the 5,000 meters at the U.S. Olympic Track & Field Trials in June.

A member of the last four U.S. IAAF World Championships teams, he placed 10th in the marathon at the '95 World Championships in Gothenburg, Sweden, and seventh in the 10,000 meters in '87 in Rome. With a personal best of 27:45.1 in the 10,000 meters, he is ranked ninth on the all-time U.S. list. The U.S. 10,000 meter champion in '90, he has been ranked among the top three Americans in at least one event by Track & Field News every year since 1985.

Inducted into the University of Minnesota "M" Club Hall of Fame in '94, Plasencia was a three-time All-America performer in cross country and a two-time honoree in track & field during his illustrious career with the Golden Gophers. The native of Crystal, Minn., still holds the outdoor school record in the 5000 meters (13:49.0).

Since 1993 Plasencia has served as the director of sports respiratory medicine for Allergy & Asthma Associates in Eugene, Ore. Prior to that he was a cardiac rehabilitation therapist at Sacred Heart Hospital in Eugene. In addition, the Cooper High School graduate has served as the coach for such prominent post-collegians as '84 U.S. Olympian Don Clary and Mike Bilyeu, who was sixth in the 5000 meters at the '92 U.S. Olympic Trials.

1996 Cross Country Roster

Name	Year	Hometown (High School)
Chris Andersen	Fr	Chisago City, Minn.
Allen Broderius	Sr	Duluth, Minn. (East)
Andy Chartrand	Fr	Balsam Lake, Wis.
Nathaniel Clay	So	Eden Prairie, Minn. (Rochester Adams)
Eric Hartmark	Fr	Duluth, Minn. (East)
Ron Hoffner	So	Brooklyn Park, Minn. (Park Central)
Todd Landgraff	So	St. Peter, Minn. (Mankato West)
Charles McClure	So	Brookfield, Wis. (Central)
Rick Obleman	Sr	Regina, Saskatchewan (R. Usher Coll.)
Jason Owen	Fr	Stewartville, Minn.
Jeremy Polson	Fr	Duluth, Minn.
Tony Riter	Sr	Shoreview, Minn. (Mounds View)
Chris Rogers	Fr	Moorhead, Minn.
Chuck Smith	Fr	Lakeville, Minn.
Phil Smith	Fr	Lakeville, Minn.



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Monday, September 9:

Offensive Coordinator **Bob DeBesse**

Tuesday, September 10:

Coach **Jim Wacker's** media luncheon

Wednesday, September 11:

Defensive line coach **Don Yanowsky**

Thursday, September 12:

Junior split end **Ryan Thelwell**

Friday, September 13:

Golf Coach **John Means** previews the Reliastar Invitational

Saturday-Sunday, September 14-15:

Head Football Coach **Jim Wacker's** Ball State postgame comments

This Week in Gopher Sports

Friday, Sept. 13

• **Tennis**

at Japan Friendship Tour
 Tokyo, Japan
 Friday, Sept. 13 - Sunday,
 Sept. 22

Saturday, Sept. 14

• **Football**

vs. Ball State
 Metrodome
 WCCO-AM (830)
 Midwest Sports Channel
 7 p.m.

• **Cross Country**

at Minnesota-Duluth Invite
 Lester Park Golf Course
 8 Kilometers
 10:50 a.m.

Sunday, Sept. 15

• **Golf**

ReliaStar Collegiate Invitational
 Hazeltine National G.C.
 Chaska, Minn.
 Sunday, Sept. 15 - Monday,
 Sept. 16
 All day

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 NET SportsZone will be available at the following address:

<http://espnetsportszone.com>



CROSS COUNTRY

Cross Country at Minnesota-Duluth Invite: The University of Minnesota men's cross country team will travel to Minnesota-Duluth on Saturday, Sept. 14, for a nine team invitational. Teams from Michigan Tech, Northern Michigan, St. Cloud St., Augsburg, Wisconsin-Superior, Lakehead University, St. Scholastica and Minnesota-Duluth will compete against the Golden Gophers. The meet, which will be held at Lester Park Golf Course, is scheduled to start at 10:50 CDT.

Obleman Wins Opening Race: Senior captain **RICK OBLEMAN** (Regina, Saskatchewan) claimed the individual title in the meet last Saturday, Sept. 7, in the 26-32 win over Northern Iowa. Obleman covered the eight kilometer course in 25:40.1, which was more than four seconds faster than the second place finisher.

"Rick ran very well," said head coach Steve Plasencia. "His experience helped him win."

Freshmen Look Strong in Opener: Freshmen **JEREMY POLSON** (Duluth, Minn.) and **CHRIS ANDERSEN** (Chisago City, Minn.) finished third and seventh in their Golden Gopher debuts. Polson's time of 26:01.2 was just 21 seconds behind Obleman's winning time of 25:40.1. Andersen finished the course in 26:29.1.

"Polson and Andersen ran with a lot of heart," said Plasencia. "They ran on their summer fitness Saturday."

Other Gopher freshmen making their debuts were **ERIC HARTMARK** (Duluth, Minn.) and **CHUCK SMITH** (Lakeville, Minn.). Hartmark finished 12th and Smith 14th.



GOLF

Golf Team Opens 1996-97 Schedule with ReliaStar Collegiate Invitational: The Golden Gopher golf team will tee off the 1996-97 campaign by hosting the second annual ReliaStar Collegiate Golf Invitational Sept. 14-16, at Hazeltine National Golf Club, Chaska, Minn. The 54-hole event will feature representatives from some of the most successful programs in collegiate golf. Wake Forest, Texas A&M, Kent, Colorado State, LSU, Penn State, Jackson State, Alabama-Birmingham, Miami of Ohio, Missouri, and Northwestern are the 11 teams that are scheduled to compete in the tournament against the Golden Gophers.

College Amateur: The event gets under way with a college-amateur fund-raising event that will feature one or two players from each team competing with area amateurs. There will also be a golf clinic for more than 150 inner city youth at 9 a.m. Saturday morning sponsored by the Fairway Foundation. Wrapping up Saturday's events will be a dinner and social gathering with entertainment at Hazeltine.

More ReliaStar Information: Sunday's collegiate competition will feature 36 holes of twosome play. The final 18 holes of the tournament will be played in threesomes on Monday. The tournament, which is being held at the par-72, 7,237-yard Hazeltine National Golf Club, will be administered by the Minnesota Golf Association (MGA). The entire event is a fund-raiser for the University of Minnesota Men's Golf program, and all logistics and planning are being handled by the Golden Gopher Golf Booster Club.

Kerr Leads Maroon and Gold: Returning all-America **ROB KERR** (Jr., Pointe Claire, Quebec, Canada) will lead the Golden Gophers. The winner of the NCAA Central Regional last spring, Kerr was recently named to the Canadian National Team that will compete in the World Tournament in Asia in November. Senior captain **MARK HALVERSON** (Fargo, N.D.) is the other returning starter from last season. Halverson is a pillar of consistency and is looking to lead this edition of the linksters to the NCAA Tournament for the fifth consecutive time. Sophomore letterwinner **JEFF BARNEY** (Appleton, Minn.) returns after sitting out last year as a redshirt. Barney garnered his letter in 1994-95 when he competed in every tournament but one as the number five player.



TENNIS

Netters Embark On Japan Tour: The University of Minnesota men's tennis team will depart for Japan on Friday as they get ready to open the fall portion of the 1996-97 season overseas. The Golden Gophers will participate in a collegiate tournament in the Land of the Rising Sun beginning Monday, Sept. 16, through Sunday Sept. 22 against Asia University, Keio University, Waseda University, and a team comprised of foreign players residing in Japan. All three of the university teams the Maroon and Gold will face are schools located in Japan. The trip will prove to be a good early-season test as well as a good cultural experience. The Asia University squad is currently the number one-ranked team in Japan.

The Golden Gophers are coming off a season in which they gained a berth in the NCAA Championships by winning nine of their final 11 matches.



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Monday, September 16:

Defensive Coordinator Tim Rose

Tuesday, September 17:

Coach Jim Wacker's media luncheon

Wednesday, September 18:

Junior quarterback Cory Sauter

Thursday, September 19:

Quarterbacks coach Jim Zorn

Friday, September 20:

Senior defensive tackle Jerome Davis

Saturday-Sunday, September 21-22:

Head Football Coach Jim Wacker's Syracuse postgame comments

This Week in Gopher Sports

Saturday, Sept. 21

• Football

vs. Syracuse
Metrodome
WCCO-AM (830)
ESPN2
7:30 p.m.

PARTIAL SEASON TICKETS AVAILABLE FOR FOOTBALL

A partial season ticket package is now available to fans that includes Big Ten games against Michigan State (Oct. 19), Michigan (Oct. 26) and Illinois (Nov. 16) for \$39.50. Purchasers will receive the same lower level end zone seat location for all three games. In addition, fans who buy this special three-game package will receive one free certificate for discounted travel on Sun Country Airlines. For more information, call the Athletics Ticket Office at the same above number.

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ROY GRIAK INVITATIONAL SATURDAY, SEPT. 28

Just a reminder that the Roy Griak Cross Country Invitational is set for Saturday, Sept. 28, at Les Bolstad University of Minnesota Golf Course. The invite was renamed in honor of Griak, who retired last season after 33 years. The Griak is considered to be the finest collegiate cross country race in the nation. The invite, which features a men's and women's race will include a high school division this year. The men's collegiate race is scheduled to begin at 11:15 a.m.



CROSS COUNTRY

1996 CROSS COUNTRY SCHEDULE

DATE	MEET	RESULT
Sept. 7	vs. Northern Iowa (Les Bolstad U of M Golf Course)	W, 26-32
Sept. 14	UMD Invitational (Duluth, Minn.)	W, 21 pts.
Sept. 28	Minnesota Invitational (Les Bolstad U of M Golf Course)	11:15 a.m.
Oct. 19	Iowa State Classic (Ames, Iowa)	10:30 a.m.
Oct. 26	Marathon Sports Open (Les Bolstad U of M Golf Course)	11 a.m.
Nov. 2	Big Ten Championships (Bloomington, Ind)	11 a.m.
Nov. 16	Dist. 4 Championships (Champaign, Ill.)	11 a.m.
Nov. 25	NCAA Championships (Tucson, Ariz.)	TBA

Cross Country Idle This Week: The University of Minnesota men's cross country team will not compete this weekend. The team will use the time off to train for the prestigious Roy Griak Invitational on Saturday, September 28. Coach Steve Plasencia expects as many as 45 men's collegiate teams to compete in two divisions. The meet will be held at Les Bolstad University of Minnesota Golf Course. The men's race will start at 11:15 a.m.

Gophers Dominate UMD Invite: The Golden Gophers placed four runners in the top five to roll over the competition at the UMD Invite this past weekend. Minnesota finished first with 21 points, followed by UMD with 52 points. Senior captain RICK OBLEMAN (Regina, Saskatchewan) finished second to lead Minnesota. Obleman time of 25:53 placed him two seconds behind champion Andy Hopkins of UMD. Freshman JEREMY POLSON posted his second straight third place finish with a time of 26:22. Senior TONY RITER (Shoreview, Minn.) and sophomore TODD LANDGRAFF (St. Peter, Minn.) finished fourth and fifth, respectively. Junior ALLEN BRODERIUS (Duluth, Minn.) finished seventh to close out the Gopher scoring. Head coach Steve Plasencia thought the team ran well, but he particularly lauded the efforts of Riter and Landgraft.

Plasencia and Obleman to Appear on Gopher Hotline: Head coach Steve Plasencia and senior captain Rick Obleman will appear on the Gopher Hotline during the week of Sept. 22-29. Media representatives can call (612) 625-7887 to hear Plasencia and Obleman's comments on the upcoming Roy Griak Invitational. Obleman is scheduled for Friday, Sept. 27, while Plasencia's post-meet remarks can be heard Saturday, Sept. 28 through Sunday, Sept. 29.



GOLF

Golf Team Wins ReliaStar; Kerr Ties For Medalist Honors: The University of Minnesota men's golf team, paced by senior captain MARK HALVERSON'S (Fargo, N.D.) 69 and junior all-American ROB KERR'S 68 (Pointe Claire, Quebec) on the final round, won the second annual ReliaStar Collegiate Golf Invitational at Hazeltine National Golf Club yesterday. Minnesota's 873 team score gave them an eight stroke victory over rival Northwestern, while defending champion LSU finished third at 886.

Kerr Birdies 18th to Tie For Medalist Honors: ROB KERR hit his second shot on the par four 18th hole from a down hill lie under a tree 15 feet into the rough and put it 15 feet from the flag. He sank the birdie putt to finish with a tournament low round of 68 and tie Northwestern's Scott Rowe for medalist honors at 213, three under par. Kerr had a tournament opening round of 69, followed by a 76, before finishing strong to garner his second collegiate victory in his last three tournaments.

Halverson Finishes Third With Career-Low 69: MARK HALVERSON got his final campaign as a Golden Gopher off to a great start with a career-low round of 69 that gave him a share of third place and his highest finish as a Golden Gopher. Halverson had fired a pair of one over par 73's before carding the 69 to finish one under par at 215, just two strokes off the lead.

Balance Is Key: Minnesota had five starters finish in the top 21 positions. That included impressive performances by redshirt freshman MATT BURGESS (Mankato, Minn.) who was very solid with a score of 76-76-74=226 (21st), and pure freshman MARTIN LE MESURIER (South Hampton, England) who slipped a little on the final round but finished tied for 13th with a score of 224 (71-75-78). Sophomore BILL THOMPSON (Wayzata, Minn.) carded a 225 score (75-74-76) to finish tied for 15th, which was his high finish as a Golden Gopher. In addition, Minnesota had three players competing as individuals finish in the top 25. Returning letterwinner JEFF BARNEY (So., Appleton, Minn.) was tied for 15th at 225, as was ADAM DOOLEY (So., Albany, Minn.). ANDY KOMOR (New Brighton, Minn.) was 21st at 226, while MATT LEWIS (Dubuque, Iowa) rounded out Minnesota's scoring with a 231, good for 43rd place.

Next Up: The Golden Gophers will take a week off before traveling to St. Louis, Mo., to compete in the Missouri Bluffs Invitational on September 28-29.

Note: Tournament results are on the following page.

**RellaStar Collegiate Golf Invitational
Hazelhine National Golf Club
Chaska, Minn.
Sept. 15-16, 1996**

Finish	School	Scores	Total	
1.	Minnesota	288 298	287 873	+9
2.	Northwestern	292 295	294 881	+17
3.	Louisiana State	289 296	301 886	+22
4.	Wake Forest	305 291	294 890	+26
5.	Ala.-Birmingham	301 295	295 891	+27
6.	Colorado State	296 303	307 906	+42
7.	Miami of Ohio	296 299	314 909	+45
8.	Texas A&M	301 305	308 914	+50
9.	Penn State	302 305	308 915	+51
10.	Jackson State	305 301	312 918	+54
11.	Kent State	302 309	312 923	+59
12.	Missouri	312 308	319 939	+75

Top Ten Individuals		Scores	Total	Par
1.	Rob Kerr (UM)	69 76	68 213	-3
1.	Scott Rowe (NU)	71 70	72 213	-3
3.	Mark Halverson (UM)	73 73	69 215	-1
3.	Paul Dickinson (UAB)	73 72	70 215	-1
5.	Jeremy Wilkinson (LSU)	73 71	72 216	E
6.	Kyle Voska (Miami-Ohio)	72 73	72 217	+1
6.	P.J. Smith (LSU)	71 71	75 217	+1
8.	Juan Vizcaya (WFU)	75 73	73 221	+5
9.	Todd Lynch (WFU)	77 72	73 222	+6
9.	Davis Hartley (UAB)	73 74	75 222	+6
9.	Erik Ciotti (NU)	76 76	70 222	+6

Other Minnesota Individuals		Scores	Total	
15.	Jeff Barney	74 75	76 225	+9
15.	Adam Dooley	74 72	79 225	+9
21.	Andy Komor	79 73	74 226	+10
43.	Matt Lewis	78 79	74 231	+15



BASEBALL

Fall Practices Begin: The Golden Gopher baseball team started fall practices today at Siebert Field. The team will have two practices per day until school starts September 26 and will conclude its fall workouts on October 28.

The fall workouts will be highlighted by a pair of games. On Saturday, September 21, at 1 p.m., there will be a non-pro alumni game and on Saturday, October 5, at 1 p.m., the Golden Gophers will conduct their Parent's Day intrasquad game. For more information please contact Jim Christman at (612) 625-0854.



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Defensive backs coach Jerry Rosburg

Tuesday, September 24:

Junior golfer Rob Kerr

Wednesday, September 25:

Baseball coach John Anderson

Thursday, September 26:

Golf coach John Means

Friday, September 27:

Senior cross country captain Rick Obleman

Saturday-Sunday, September 28-29:

Cross Country Coach Steve Plasencia's post Roy Griak Invitational comments

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Thurs., Sept. 26

• Tennis

at National Clay Court Championships
Baltimore, Md.
TBA

Friday, Sept. 27

• Tennis

at National Clay Court Championships
Baltimore, Md.
TBA

• Golf

at Missouri Bluffs Invite
Missouri Bluffs Golf Course
St. Louis, Missouri
All day

Saturday, Sept. 28

• Cross Country

Roy Griak Invitational
Les Bolstad U of M Golf Course

• Tennis

at National Clay Court Championships
Baltimore, Md.
TBA

• Golf

at Missouri Bluffs Invite
Missouri Bluffs Golf Course
St. Louis, Missouri
All day



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Nov. 25	NCAA Championships (Tucson, Ariz.)	TBA

Cross Country to Host Roy Griak Invite: The University of Minnesota men's cross country team will host the prestigious Roy Griak Invitational on Saturday, September 28. Coach Steve Plasencia expects as many as 45 men's collegiate teams to compete in two divisions. The Maroon Race will feature representatives from Division II and III schools. The Gold Race will feature top teams in NCAA Division I. The meet will be held at Les Bolstad University of Minnesota Golf Course. The men's maroon race will start at 11:15 a.m., followed by the gold race at 12:00 p.m.

Golden Gophers Looking For Improvement:

The Minnesota harriers will look to improve upon their 13th place finish at the Minnesota Invitational a year ago. The Gophers are unbeaten in two meets thus far in 1996. Senior captain RICK OBLEMAN (Regina, Saskatchewan) will lead a young nucleus of U of M runners into the Griak. Obleman claimed the individual title against Northern Iowa and finished second at the UMD Invite. Freshman JEREMY POLSON (Duluth, Minn.) has been impressive. He has finished third in both meets. Other Gophers who are running strong include: senior TONY RITER (Shoreview, Minn), sophomore TODD LANDGRAFF (St. Peter, Minn.) and freshman ERIC HART-MARK (Duluth, Minn.).

"The meet will be a very good test for our guys," said Coach Steve Plasencia. "We'll find out where we stack up against some of the best programs in the country."

Wisconsin, Wyoming, Northern Arizona and Iowa State highlight one of the strongest fields in recent Griak history. All four teams are ranked in the Martin Surfacing NCAA Division I Men's Cross Country Poll. The Badgers, who are ranked third, will be seeking their third straight Griak crown.

Men's Maroon Race starts at 11:15 a.m.
Men's Gold Race starts at 12:00 p.m.

Gold Division

Minnesota
Manitoba
Northern Arizona
Boston College
Wyoming
Air Force
Providence
Nebraska
Missouri
Colorado State
Mississippi State
Brown
Wisconsin
Alabama
Drake
Marquette
Iowa State
Washington

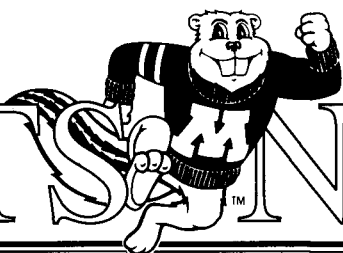
Maroon Division

Dana College
Nebraska-Kearney
NW Missouri State
Pittsburg State
St. John's
Concordia-Moorhead
Augustana
Bethel
Carleton
Simpson
River Falls
Northwestern College
St. Cloud State
Northern State
North Dakota
Minnesota-Duluth
South Dakota
Wartberg
Lakehead (Ontario)
Hamline
North Dakota State
Concordia-St. Paul
Moorhead State
St. Scholastica
Augsburg
Mankato State
Wis.-Superior
St. Thomas
Beloit College (Wis.)



GOLF

Linksters at Missouri-Bluffs Invite: The University of Minnesota men's golf team travels to St. Charles, Mo., for the Missouri Bluffs Invitational on Sept. 28-29. Representatives from Stanford, Wake Forest, North Carolina, Tulsa, SMU, Rice, Air Force, Southwest Louisiana, Houston, Texas A&M, Oklahoma, Kansas and Colorado will compete against the Golden Gophers and host school Missouri. The two-day meet will be played at Missouri Bluffs Golf Course.



SPORTS NEWS

Bierman Field Athletic Building 516 15th Avenue Southeast Minneapolis, MN 55455 (612) 625-4090 Fax 625-0359

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 25, 1996

MICA ANNOUNCES ENDOWMENT SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

The University of Minnesota Men's Intercollegiate Athletics department announced the 1996-97 Endowed Scholarship recipients at its annual kick-off program today. Endowed Scholarships are made possible thanks to the generous financial donations by supporters of men's athletics.

The recipients are as follows:

	<u>Name of scholarship</u>	<u>Recipient/Year</u>	<u>Hometown</u>
Baseball	Calvin Griffith	Bryan Guse (Sr)	New Brighton, Minn.
	Paul Molitor	Eric Welter (Sr)	Chaska, Minn.
	David Weiner	Justin Pederson (Sr)	Chippewa Falls, Wis.
Football	Murray Warmath	Cory Sauter (Jr)	Hutchinson, Minn.
Hockey	Preston and Alice Higgins	Mike Lyons (Fr)	St. Paul, Minn.
Tennis	Pinky McNamara/ Tom Lowe/ Dick Lindstrom	Tom Chicoine (So)	Neenah, Wis.
	Harvey Ratner/ Marv Wolfenson	Adam Selkirk (So)	St. Joseph, Md.
	Bob McNamara/ Len Shope	Ben Gabler (Sr)	Chambersburg, Pa.
Wrestling	Verne Gagne	Brandon Paulson	Coon Rapids, Minn.



SPORTS NEWS

Bierman Field Athletic Building 516 15th Avenue Southeast Minneapolis, MN 55455 (612) 625-4090 Fax 625-0359

For Immediate Release

September 25, 1996

BASELINE CLUB AWARDS THREE SCHOLARSHIPS

The University of Minnesota Baseline Tennis Club announced the recipients of three endowed scholarships at their annual kick-off luncheon today at Jax Restaurant.

The Pinky McNamara/Tom Lowe/Dick Lindstrom Scholarship was awarded to sophomore Tom Chicoine of Neenah, Wisconsin. Chicoine has the distinction of being the highest ranked high school player ever recruited at the University of Minnesota. He played no. 4 singles last season and posted a 25-20 record.

This year's recipient of the Bob McNamara/Len Shope Scholarship is senior Ben Gabler of Chambersburg, Pa. Gabler led the Golden Gophers with 26 singles wins last season. He captured the Florida State Singles Championship and advanced to the finals at no. 2 singles at the Big Ten Championships.

Adam Selkirk of St. Joseph, Missouri, is the recipient of the newly formed Harvey Ratner/Marv Wolfenson Scholarship. Selkirk was ranked in the top 25 as a junior player when he was recruited by the U of M. He played most of last season at no. 4 and 5 singles and posted a 6-4 mark in the Big Ten.

The endowed scholarships are made possible from committed supporters of Minnesota athletics. The scholarships represent an educational and athletic commitment from the donors to Golden Gopher athletes.

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA



SPORTS NEWS

Bierman Field Athletic Building 516 15th Avenue Southeast Minneapolis, MN 55455 (612) 625-4090 Fax 625-0359


For Immediate Release

September 24, 1996

MINNESOTA-PURDUE GAME TO BE TELEVISED ON WCCO-TV

The kickoff for the University of Minnesota football game at Purdue on Oct. 5 has been changed to 11:20 a.m. (Central).

Originally set to begin at 1 p.m. (Central), the game will be the Creative Sports regional game of the week and will be televised locally on WCCO-TV (Channel 4).



SPORTS NEWS

Bierman Field Athletic Building 516 15th Avenue Southeast Minneapolis, MN 55455 (612) 625-4090 Fax 625-0359

For Immediate Release

September 23, 1996

CARTER & BAILEY NAMED BIG TEN PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

University of Minnesota freshman strong safety Tyrone Carter was named Big Ten Defensive Player of the Week today, while sophomore placekicker Adam Bailey earned the league's Special Teams Player of the Week award for their outstanding performances in the Golden Gophers' 35-33 win over No. 23 Syracuse at the Metrodome Saturday.

A 5-9, 172-pounder from Ely High School in Pompano Beach, Fla., Carter returned two fumbles for TDs against the Orangemen, a new Big Ten and NCAA single-game record. In 1990 the NCAA adopted a rule allowing the defense to advance fumbles that took place beyond the line of scrimmage. That rule was amended in 1992 to allow the defense to advance fumbles regardless of where they happened on the field. During that time a number of players have returned one fumble for a TD in a game, but Carter is the first to do it twice.


Nicknamed "Touchdown Tyrone" after scoring 23 TDs during his final prep season, Carter returned the first fumble he recovered Saturday a school record 63 yards for a TD to give the Golden Gophers a 15-12 lead with 8:52 remaining in the third quarter. On Syracuse's very next possession, he scooped up another fumble and ran it back 20 yards for his record-breaking second TD of the night and a 22-12 Minnesota lead with 7:56 left in the third. In addition, he tied for the team high with eight tackles in the game, including seven solos, and also had two kickoff returns for 54 yards.

Bailey, who came to the U of M as a walk-on from Burnsville (Minn.) High School, hit a career-long 48-yard field goal with 5:23 left in the game Saturday to pull the Golden Gophers within a point, and then the game-winner from 26 yards out with 42 seconds remaining. He was also a perfect three-for-three on extra point attempts.

Media Note

With the open date this weekend, this week's practice schedule is as follows (please call the Media Relations Office at 625-4090 for exact time and to set up interviews)

Monday (Sept. 23)	No practice
Tuesday (Sept. 24)	Practice
Wednesday (Sept. 25)	Practice
Thursday (Sept. 26)	No practice
Friday (Sept. 27)	Practice
Saturday (Sept. 28)	No practice



SPORTS & FITNESS NEWS

Bierman Field Athletic Building 516 15th Avenue Southeast Minneapolis, MN 55455 (612) 625-4090 Fax 625-0359

September 24, 1996

TO: Participating Schools in Roy Griak Invitational
FROM: Erich Bacher and Lisa Nelson/Minnesota Cross Country Contacts
RE: Post-meet Results

Attention Cross Country SID:

The results for the Roy Griak Invitational on Saturday, Sept. 28, will be available on the Big Ten Conference Fax-on Demand Directory. The number to call to access the results is (770) 399-3066. The passcode for the Big Ten is 282 (BTC). The request numbers from the specific races are listed below:

Cell #	NCAA Division	Race
2324	Women's Division I	Gold
2317	Women's Division II & III	Maroon
2241	Men's Division I	Gold
2237	Men's Division II & III	Maroon

The results for all divisions will be available at 3:00 p.m. CDT. If you have any questions, please call Erich Bacher at (612) 625-7318 or Lisa Nelson at (612) 624-9396.

Sincerely,



Erich Bacher
U of M Men's Cross Country SID



GOLDEN GOPHER MEN'S ATHLETICS

University of Minnesota • Bierman Field Athletic Building • 516 15th Avenue Southeast • Minneapolis, Minn. 55414
Phone: 612.625.4090 • Fax: 612.625.0359 • Director: Marc Ryan • Assistant Directors: Bill Crumley and Brad Ruitter

September 30, 1996

Gopher Hotline

The Golden Gopher Hotline features daily interviews with players and coaches. It is available to the media 24 hours a day by calling (612) 625-7887. The hotline is broadcast quality and is changed by noon each day. This service is for media use only. The schedule for this week is as follows:

Monday, September 30:

Defensive Coordinator **Tim Rose**

Tuesday, October 1:

Coach **Jim Wacker's** media luncheon

Wednesday, October 2:

Junior quarterback **Cory Sauter**

Thursday, October 3:

Senior linebacker **Ben Langford**

Friday, October 4:

Junior slotback **Tutu Atwell**

Saturday-Sunday, October 5-6:

Head Football Coach **Jim Wacker's** Purdue postgame comments

This Week in Gopher Sports

Friday, Oct. 4

• Tennis

at Arizona State Invitational
Whiteman Tennis Center
Tempe, Arizona
TBA

Saturday, Oct. 5

• Football

at Purdue
West Lafayette, Indiana
Ross-Ade Stadium
WCCO-TV (Channel 4)
11:20 a.m.

• Golf

at Wolverine Invitational
University of Michigan G.C.
Ann Arbor, Michigan
All day

• Tennis

at Arizona State Invitational
Whiteman Tennis Center
Tempe, Arizona
TBA

Sunday, Oct. 6

• Golf

at Wolverine Invitational
University of Michigan G.C.
Ann Arbor, Michigan
All day

• Tennis

at Arizona State Invitational
Whiteman Tennis Center
Tempe, Arizona
TBA

GET WIRED!

The University of Minnesota Men's Athletic Department is now on the Internet. The World Wide Web site contains press releases, statistics, rosters, schedules and much more information. The Web pages can be accessed at:

<http://gophersports.umn.edu>

Information on every Big Ten school and the conference is also available via the Internet. The Big Ten's home page on ESPN-ET SportsZone will be available at the following address:

<http://espnet.sportszone.com>



GOLF

GOLDEN GOPHERS FINISH THIRD AT MISSOURI BLUFFS; COMPETE IN WOLVERINE INVITATIONAL THIS WEEKEND:

The University of Minnesota men's golf team climbed to third after the final round of the 1996 Missouri Bluffs Invitational, held at the Missouri Bluffs Golf Course in St. Charles, Mo. The Golden Gophers fired a team score of 284 for a 54-hole total of 865, 13 strokes off the pace set by team champion North Carolina (852). The Tar Heels beat Tulsa (855) by three strokes, overcoming a 12-stroke Tulsa lead going into the final round. Tulsa's Martin Maritz held on to win medalist honors, carding a final round 72, finishing one stroke ahead of Stanford's Joel Kribel who shot a 69.

HALVERSON LEADS WAY: Leading the way for Minnesota was senior captain **MARK HALVERSON** (Fargo, N.D.) who fired a 68 and finished tied for third with a score of 211. That marks the second time in as many tournaments that Halverson has finished third (previously at ReliaStar Collegiate Invitational). The third place finish tied his career high (third at ReliaStar), and his second-round score of 67 was a career low.

BRIT HEADS THE CALL: Minnesota's import from the British Isles, freshman **MARTIN LE MESURIER** (South Hampton, England) finished 19th with a score of 218 for the Maroon and Gold. Le Mesurier has played very well in his first two tournaments in the States. He finished 13th with a score of 224 that included two bogeys and a triple bogey in the final five holes at the ReliaStar Invitational. This lad with the consistent stroke has virtually locked up the number three spot in the lineup.

BALANCE THE KEY: Minnesota's balance again was crucial as they placed four starters in the top 26 and the fifth was just one stroke back.

GOPHER SCORECARD: Golden Gopher All-American **ROBB KERR** (Jr., Pointe Claire, Quebec, Can.) rebounded from a tough start to card a 71 and finish 26th at 221. Sophomore Bill Thompson (Wayzata, Minn.) joined Kerr at 221, while sophomore **ANDY KOMOR** (New Brighton, Minn.) finished off Minnesota's scoring at 222.

NEXT UP: The Golden Gophers will travel to Ann Arbor, Mich., this weekend to defend its 1995 title in the Wolverine Invitational. Last year the Maroon and Gold won the Wolverine Invitational with a team score of 897.

BY THE NUMBERS: Halverson leads the team with a stroke average of 71.0 and his 67 at the Missouri Bluffs is the low individual round. Kerr is next at 72.3 with 434 strokes. Le Mesurier is at 73.7. Komor is at 74.7, and Thompson is at 74.3. Halverson, Kerr, Le Mesurier and Thompson have started both tournaments, while **MATT BURGESS** (Fr., Mankato, Minn.) and Komor have each gotten a start at the number five spot.

Final Team Standings From Missouri Bluffs Intercollegiate Missouri Bluffs Golf Club (Par 71, 7,067 yards) St. Charles, Mo.

1. North Carolina	290-285-277-852
2. Tulsa	289-274-292-855
3. Minnesota	299-282-284-865
3. Wake Forest	295-288-282-865
5. SMU	294-284-298-871
6. Rice	304-289-284-877
7. Houston	304-286-288-878
8. Oklahoma	310-283-291-884
9. Texas A&M	303-293-289-885
10. SW Louisiana	299-303-292-894
11. Kansas	306-292-297-895
12. Stanford	300-299-298-897
13. Air Force	297-300-303-900
14. Colorado	302-301-310-913
15. Missouri	314-296-305-915

Top 20 Individuals

1. Martin Maritz	Tulsa	69-67-72-208
2. Joel Kribel	Stanford	71-69-69-209
3. Mark Halverson	Minnesota	76-67-68-211
3. Mark Wilson	North Carolina	71-70-70-211
5. Michael Boyd	Tulsa	71-70-71-212
5. Lee McEntee	North Carolina	71-72-69-212
7. Todd Lynch	Wake Forest	73-76-69-213
8. Jeff Burns	Houston	74-68-72-214
8. Ross Bain	North Carolina	72-73-69-214
8. Jim Skinner	SMU	73-67-74-214
8. Justin Roof	Wake Forest	74-70-70-214
8. Ted Haley	North Carolina	72-67-75-214
13. Clint Jensen	Tulsa	75-68-72-215
13. Josh Gregory	SMU	72-73-70-215
13. Max Harris	North Carolina	76-70-69-215
16. Doyle Moffitt	Missouri	72-71-73-216
17. Chris Thompson	Kansas	74-73-70-217
17. Drew Conrad	Rice	77-69-71-217
19. Martin Le Mesurier	Minnesota	76-69-73-218
19. Greg Sonnier	SW Louisiana	71-74-73-218

Other Golden Gopher Scores

Mark Halverson	76-67-68-211 (T3rd)
Martin Le Mesurier	76-69-73-218 (T19th)
Bill Thompson	73-76-72-221 (T26th)
Rob Kerr	74-76-71-221 (T26th)
Andy Komor	78-70-74-222 (T32nd)



CROSS COUNTRY

Cross Country Idle Until Oct. 19: The University of Minnesota men's cross country team will not compete until Oct. 19 when they travel to Ames, Iowa, for the Iowa State Classic.

Gophers 15th at Griak Invitational: The Golden Gophers placed 15th at the Roy Griak Invitational on Saturday, September 28. Wisconsin won the title for the third consecutive year. The Badgers finished with 79 points, just three points ahead of runner-up Northern Arizona. Nebraska's Jonah Kiptarus won the race with a course record time of 23:57.

Gopher freshman **JEREMY POLSON** (Duluth, Minn.) led Minnesota with a 44th place finish. Polson ran the eight kilometer course in 25:27. Junior **TONY RITER** (Shoreview, Minn.) finished 62nd with a time of 25:44. Sophomore **TODD LANDGRAFF** (St. Peter, Minn.) finished 66th and freshman **CHRIS ANDERSON** (Chisago City, Minn.) came in 85th. Senior **RICK OBLEMAN** (Regina, Saskatchewan) had a tough day. He finished a disappointing 90th with a time of 26:12.

Other Gophers competing were **AL BRODERIUS** (Jr., Duluth, Minn.), **RON HOFFNER** (Brooklyn Park, Minn.), **ERIC HARTMARK** (Duluth, Minn.) and **CHARLES McCLURE** (Brookfield, Wis.).

Rising Star: Freshman **JEREMY POLSON** continues to impress in his first season at Minnesota. Polson finished 44th in the Roy Griak Invite to lead the Gophers. Polson was Minnesota's no. 2 finisher in the two meets prior to the Griak. Polson's time of 25:27 at Les Bolstad Golf Course was 34 seconds faster than his time against Northern Iowa in the opening meet on Sept. 7.

Roy Griak Invitational Final Results

Place	Team	Points	Place of Finishers							
1.	Wisconsin	79	3	13	15	16	32	45	58	
2.	Northen Arizona	82	5	7	17	24	29	43	118	
3.	Providence	109	9	18	19	25	38	42	72	
4.	Alabama	127	4	20	21	22	60	101	111	
5.	Brown	165	8	27	31	46	53	92	100	
6.	Michigan State	172	26	28	37	40	41	51	54	
7.	Nebraska	192	1	2	47	68	74	113	115	
8.	Iowa State	222	6	30	34	73	79	89	105	
9.	Colorado State	253	10	36	52	77	78	98	114	
10.	Missouri	268	14	49	59	65	81	86	120	
11.	Wyoming	273	11	48	50	69	95	108		
12.	Air Force	279	33	35	56	64	91	96	103	
13.	Kansas	319	23	55	61	76	104	121	126	
14.	Washington	323	12	67	75	84	85	107	116	
15.	Minnesota	343	44	62	66	83	88	110	117	
16.	Marquette	400	57	70	80	94	99	119	124	
17.	Drake	404	63	71	87	90	93	112	138	
18.	Boston College	438	39	82	102	106	109	122	128	
19.	Manitoba	608	97	125	127	129	130	131		

Place	Name	Year	School	Time
1.	Jonah Kiptarus	Jr.	Nebraska	23:57
2.	Cleophas Boor	Jr.	Nebraska	24:01
3.	Pascal Dobert	Sr.	Wisconsin	24:32
4.	Faizal Emamaullee	Sr.	Alabama	24:34
5.	John Howell	Sr.	N. Arizona	24:40
6.	Kevin Farrow	So.	Iowa State	24:41
7.	Web Shelley	Jr.	N. Arizona	24:44
8.	Donal O'Sullivan	Sr.	Brown	24:48
9.	Michael Donnelly	Sr.	Providence	24:50
10.	Dave Sobolik	Jr.	Colorado St.	24:51

Minnesota Finishers

Place	Name	Year	Time
44.	Jeremy Polson	Fr.	25:27
62.	Tony Riter	Jr.	25:44
66.	Todd Landgraft	So.	25:48
85.	Chris Anderson	Fr.	26:09
90.	Rick Obleman	Sr.	26:12
115.	Al Broderius	Jr.	26:40
125.	Ron Hoffner	So.	26:56
127.	Eric Hartmark	Fr.	26:57
135.	Charles McClure	So.	27:19



TENNIS

GABLER, CHICOINE HEAD SOUTHWEST:


Golden Gophers **BEN GABLER** (Sr., Chambersburg, Pa.) and **TOM CHICOINE** (So., Neenah, Wis.) will travel to the Valley of the Sun this weekend to participate in the Arizona State Invitational in Tempe, Ariz. Last season, Gabler was 2-1 in the tournament, posting victories over Sergio Elias of ASU and Eddie Schwarz of Arizona before losing to Jan Anderson of Arizona in the third round. Chicoine did not travel to the competition in 1995.

TEAM WINS FOREIGN TOURNAMENT: The

Golden Gophers recently returned from a week-long excursion to Japan, where they won a four-team tournament against some of the top competition in the country. The team had the opportunity to explore and learn about Japan outside of the tennis matches.

LOOKING AHEAD: Minnesota will travel to Lexington, Ky., for the Kentucky Invitational from Oct. 11-13. The fall portion of the schedule also includes tournaments at Florida State, Tulane and the Region IV Singles Championships. The Maroon and Gold will close out the fall schedule by hosting the annual Ice Volleys tournament at the Burnsville Racquet Club. The Golden Gophers will entertain USC, Notre Dame and Clemson in one of the top tennis tournaments in the nation.

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA



SPORTS NEWS

Bierman Field Athletic Building 516 15th Avenue Southeast Minneapolis, MN 55455 (612) 625-4090 Fax 625-0359

For Immediate Release


September 30, 1996

MINNESOTA-NORTHWESTERN GAME TO BE TELEVISED BY ESPN2

The kickoff for the University of Minnesota football game at Northwestern on Oct. 12 has been changed to 11:30 a.m. (Central). Originally set to begin at 1 p.m. (Central), the game will be televised nationally on ESPN2.

A final reminder that Saturday's Minnesota-Purdue game will begin at 11:20 a.m. (Central) and be televised locally on WCCO-TV (Channel 4) as part of the Creative Sports regional game of the week.

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA



SPORTS NEWS

Bierman Field Athletic Building 516 15th Avenue Southeast Minneapolis, MN 55455 (612) 625-4090 Fax 625-0359

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 1, 1996

TWO GOLDEN GOPHER FOOTBALL TICKET OFFERS ON SALE

Two Golden Gopher football ticket offers are available to fans for purchase.

The Big Ten Package is a partial season ticket plan that includes conference games against Michigan State (Oct. 19), Michigan (Oct. 26) and Illinois (Nov. 16). The cost is \$36. Purchasers will receive the same lower level end zone seat location for all three games.

With each Big Ten Package bought, fans will receive a free certificate for discounted round-trip travel on Sun Country Airlines.

Pioneer Press Gopher Fun Packs are also available for purchase. Fans receive four upper deck end zone tickets, four hot dogs and four Cokes for \$39. The offer is good for the Michigan State game and Illinois contest.

For more information, call the Athletics Ticket Office at (612) 624-8080 or 1-800-U-GOPHER.

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA



SPORTS NEWS

Bierman Field Athletic Building 516 15th Avenue Southeast Minneapolis, MN 55455 (612) 625-4090 Fax 625-0359

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 3, 1996

SINGLE-GAME HOCKEY TICKETS AVAILABLE SATURDAY

The University of Minnesota has announced that it has reserved a limited number of Golden Gopher single-game hockey tickets will be on sale Saturday, Oct. 5. The tickets will be available by telephone only at 624-8080 or 1-800-UGOPHER, and the sale will be held from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday. There will be no in-person sale at the U of M ticket office.

Orders will be limited to two games with a maximum of four tickets per game. Prices are \$19 and \$16 (standing room) for all games with the exception of the Dodge/Mariucci Classic. Tickets for that event will be priced at \$24 and \$21 (standing room) for the two-game sessions. Visa, Mastercard, and Discover credit cards will be accepted for this phone-only sale.

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA



SPORTS NEWS

Bierman Field Athletic Building 516 15th Avenue Southeast Minneapolis, MN 55455 (612) 625-4090 Fax 625-0359

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 7, 1996

TICKETS AVAILABLE FOR FACEOFF CLASSIC AND BORDER BATTLE

There are still tickets remaining for the Golden Gophers matchup Saturday evening against Boston University at the Target Center in the annual College Hockey Faceoff Classic. The proceeds from the Oct. 12 game, formerly known as the Hall of Fame Game, will go to the U.S. Hockey Hall of Fame in Eveleth, Minn. As of Monday, approximately 3,500 tickets remained for the game.

In addition, tickets are also on sale now for the Golden Gophers' annual Border Battle game against the Wisconsin Badgers at the Target Center on Fri., Feb. 28, 1997 at 7 p.m. That series, with the final game played Sat., March 1 at Mariucci Arena, marks the end of Minnesota's 1996-97 regular-season schedule.

Both the Faceoff Classic and Border Battle games are part of the season-ticket package. Tickets for both of these contests can be purchased by calling the Ticketmaster at 989-5151.

MEDIA ADVISORY

DATE: October 7, 1996
TO: Golden Gopher Hockey Media Outlets
FROM: Brad Ruitter, U of M Media Relations
RE: Hockey Media Day

The Golden Gopher hockey team will host their annual media day on Thursday, Oct. 10 at 11:45 in the Club Room at Mariucci Arena. Head Coach Doug Woog, along with co-captains Mike Crowley, Casey Hankinson and alternate captain Nick Checco, will be available to field questions and give their thoughts on the upcoming season.

A lunch, catered by Gabe's By The Park, will be served shortly before Noon with the coach and players beginning their press conference at approximately 12:10 p.m. In addition, media members will be able to pick up their credentials, parking passes, copies of the 1996-97 Golden Gopher hockey media guide.

Anyone with questions should call the Media Relations Office at (612) 625-4090.





GOLDEN GOPHER MEN'S ATHLETICS

University of Minnesota •

Bierman Field Athletic Building •

516 15th Avenue Southeast •

Minneapolis, Minn. 55414

Phone: 612.625.4090 •

Fax: 612.625.0359 •

Director: Marc Ryan •

Assistant Directors: Bill Crumley and Brad Rutter

October 7, 1996

Gopher Hotline

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Monday, October 7:

Defensive Coordinator **Tim Rose**

Tuesday, October 8:

Coach **Jim Wacker's** media luncheon

Wednesday, October 9:

Junior quarterback **Cory Sauter**

Thursday, October 10:

Senior defensive tackle **Jerome Davis**

Friday, October 11:

Hockey Coach **Doug Woog**

Saturday-Sunday, October 12-13:

Head Football Coach **Jim Wacker's** Northwestern postgame comments

This Week in Gopher Sports

Friday, Oct. 11

• Tennis

at Kentucky Invitational
Nutter Tennis Center
Lexington, Kentucky
TBA

Saturday, Oct. 12

• Football

at Northwestern
Evanston, Illinois
Dyche Stadium
ESPN2
11:30 a.m.

• Hockey

vs. Boston University
Hall of Fame - Exhibition
Target Center
Midwest Sports Channel
7:00 p.m.

• Tennis

at Kentucky Invitational
Nutter Tennis Center
Lexington, Kentucky
TBA

Sunday, Oct. 13

• Tennis

at Kentucky Invitational
Nutter Tennis Center
Lexington, Kentucky
TBA

GET WIRED!

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<http://espnet.sportszone.com>



GOLF

GOLDEN GOPHER GOLF TEAM FINISHES FOURTH AT WOLVERINE INVITATIONAL:

The Golden Gopher golf team finished in fourth place at the Wolverine Invitational in Ann Arbor, Mich., this past weekend at the University of Michigan golf course. Host Michigan won the tournament with a score of 872, 20 strokes ahead of the field. Minnesota fired a 294 on the final round to finish with a score of 893, just one stroke behind Miami of Ohio and Marshall at 292. Indiana fell to fifth at 894. The fourth place finish was Minnesota's third consecutive top five finish this fall in three attempts.

WOLVERINE RECAP: The Maroon and Gold was led by senior captain **MARK HALVERSON** (Fargo, N.D.) who carded a 73 on the final round to finish 16th with a score of 223. **MARTIN LE MESURIER** (Fr., South Hampton, England) and **BILL THOMPSON** (Fr., Wayzata, Minn.) were right behind Halverson at 224 for a 17th-place finish. **ROB KERR** (Jr., Pointe Claire, Quebec, Can.) climbed to 25th with a 74 on the final round and finished with a score of 226. **MATT LEWIS** (Fr., Cedar Rapids, Iowa) rounded out Minnesota's scoring with a 47th-place finish in his first varsity competition.

NEXT UP: The Golden Gophers are off for two weeks before finishing off the fall season Oct. 20-21 at the Duke Invitational.

BY THE NUMBERS: Halverson leads the team with a 72.1 stroke average followed by Kerr at 72.3, Le Mesurier at 74.0, and Thompson at 74.4. Those four have started in all three tournaments with three different individuals starting in the five position.

BALANCING ACT: Once again, Minnesota's balanced attack led them to a top five finish. The Golden Gophers had four of their five starters in the top 25, which marks the third consecutive time that has happened this year and coincides with three top five finishes.

HAIL TO THE BRIT: Big Ten Freshman of the Year candidate Martin Le Mesurier of South Hampton, England, is enjoying an outstanding start to his collegiate career. He has started all three tournaments and has placed in the top 20 in each of them. He is third on the team with a 74.0 stroke average. Once this consistent ball striker learns the North American putting greens, he will be a force for the Golden Gophers.

Wolverine Invitational

U of Michigan Golf Course Oct. 5-6, 1996
6,700 yards, Par 71, Course Rating of 72.5
Final Team Standings

1. Michigan, 292-285-295-872
2. Miami of Ohio, 305-281-306-892
Marshall, 300-302-290-892
4. Minnesota, 299-300-599
5. Indiana, 296-296-392-894
6. Illinois, 300-304-296-900
7. Kent, 303-300-298-901
8. Toledo, 298-303-304-905
Ball State, 303-302-300-905
10. Drake, 300-302-304-906
11. Wisconsin, 296-305-310-911
Michigan State, 306-301-304-911
13. Kentucky, 301-310-301-912
14. Purdue, 308-311-295-914
15. Eastern Kentucky, 304-310-309-923
16. Iowa, 304-314-307-925
17. Texas Tech, 314-301-312-927
18. Xavier, 312-309-308-929

Top Ten Individuals

1. Maarten van den Berg, Miami, 73-65-74-212
2. Isaac Hinkle, Michigan, 72-67-74-213
3. Sam O'Dell, Marshall, 70-75-72-217
Steve Shrawder, Marshall, 75-74-68-217
5. David Jasper, Michigan, 71-71-76-218
Kyle Voska, Miami, 74-69-75-218
Randy Leen, Indiana, 73-70-75-218
Kevin Reed, Ball State, 74-72-72-218
Todd Lancaster, Kent, 74-74-70-218
10. Jamie Broce, Ball State, 74-73-72-219
Ed Parga, Illinois, 75-75-69-219
Kyle Dobbs, Michigan, 74-74-71-219

Final Minnesota Scores

- | | |
|------|----------------------------------|
| 16th | Mark Halverson, 71-79-73-223 |
| 17th | Bill Thompson, 74-76-74-224 |
| 17th | Martin Le Mesurier, 79-72-73-224 |
| 25th | Rob Kerr, 75-77-74-226 |
| 47th | Matt Lewis, 82-75-74-231 |



CROSS COUNTRY

1996 CROSS COUNTRY SCHEDULE

DATE	MEET	RESULT
Sept. 7	vs. Northern Iowa (Les Bolstad U of M Golf Course)	1st, 26 pts.
Sept. 14	UMD Invitational (Duluth, Minn.)	1st, 21 pts.
Sept. 28	Minnesota Invitational (Les Bolstad U of M Golf Course)	15th, 342 pts.
Oct. 19	Iowa State Classic (Ames, Iowa)	10:30 a.m.
Oct. 26	Marathon Sports Open (Les Bolstad U of M Golf Course)	11 a.m.
Nov. 2	Big Ten Championships (Bloomington, Ind)	11 a.m.
Nov. 16	Dist. 4 Championships (Champaign, Ill.)	11 a.m.
Nov. 25	NCAA Championships (Tucson, Ariz.)	TBA

HARRIERS AT IOWA STATE CLASSIC ON

OCT. 19: The University of Minnesota men's cross country team will enjoy its second consecutive week off as they prepare for the Iowa State Classic in Ames, Iowa, on October 19. The Golden Gophers will be looking to improve their 15th-place performance at the Roy Griak Invitational on September 28.



TENNIS

GABLER AND SELKIRK COMPETE AT ARIZONA STATE INVITATIONAL:

Senior **BEN GABLER** (Chambersburg, Pa.) and sophomore **ADAM SELKIRK** (St. Joseph, Md.) competed in the Thunderbirds Invitational in Tempe, Ariz., this weekend.

With temperatures soaring near 100 degrees all weekend, Gabler and Selkirk both picked up wins in the first round of singles play.

Gabler defeated Eric Allen of Texas 6-3, 3-6, 7-6 (5) in the first round. He then lost to Alex Osterrieth of Arizona State 6-3, 4-2, withdrawing in the second set.

Selkirk defeated Casey Was of Arizona State 6-1, 6-2 to advance to the second round. In the second round, Selkirk lost to Sebastien Dechaunac of Ole Miss 7-5, 6-0.

Gabler and Selkirk also paired up in the doubles competition, beating Miles Rogers and Chris Biorkman of Arizona State 8-2 on Friday. In the quarterfinals Saturday, Minnesota's pair was defeated by Paul Martin and Nick Crowell of Texas 8-1.

LOOKING AHEAD: The Golden Gophers will travel to Lexington, Ky., for the Kentucky Invitational from Oct. 11-13. The fall portion of the schedule also includes tournaments at Florida State, Tulane and the Region IV Singles Championships. The Maroon and Gold will close out the fall schedule by hosting the annual Ice Volleys tournament at the Burnsville Racquet Club. The Golden Gophers will entertain USC, Notre Dame and Clemson in one of the top tennis tournaments in the nation.



GOLDEN GOPHER MEN'S ATHLETICS

University of Minnesota • Bierman Field Athletic Building • 516 15th Avenue Southeast • Minneapolis, Minn. 55414
 Phone: 612.625.4090 • Fax: 612.625.0359 • Director: Marc Ryan • Assistant Directors: Bill Crumley and Brad Ruitter

October 14, 1996

Gopher Hotline

The Golden Gopher Hotline features daily interviews with players and coaches. It is available to the media 24 hours a day by calling (612) 625-7887. The hotline is broadcast quality and is changed by noon each day. This service is for media use only. The schedule for this week is as follows:

Monday, October 14:

Defensive Coordinator **Tim Rose**

Tuesday, October 15:

Coach **Jim Wacker's** media luncheon

Wednesday, October 16:

Offensive Coordinator **Bob DeBesse**

Thursday, October 17:

Hockey Coach **Doug Woog**

Friday, October 18:

Junior defenseman **Mike Crowley**

Saturday-Sunday, October 19-20:

Head Football Coach **Jim Wacker's** Michigan State postgame comments

GET WIRED!

The University of Minnesota Men's Athletic Department is now on the Internet. The World Wide Web site contains press releases, statistics, rosters, schedules and much more information. The Web pages can be accessed at:

<http://gophersports.umn.edu>

Information on every Big Ten school and the conference is also available via the Internet. The Big Ten's home page on ESPN-ET SportsZone will be available at the following address:

<http://espnet.sportszone.com>

This Week in Gopher Sports

- Thursday,
Oct. 17

 - Tennis at All-American Tournament Austin, Texas, TBA
- Friday,
Oct. 18

 - Hockey vs. Colorado College Mariucci Arena Midwest Sports Channel 7 p.m.
 - Tennis Alumni Match 98th Street Club, 6:30 p.m. at All-American Tournament Austin, Texas, TBA
- Saturday,
Oct. 19

 - Football vs. Michigan State Metrodome, 3 p.m. Midwest Sports Channel (Tape Delay) Following Golden Gopher hockey, Approx. 11 p.m.
 - Hockey vs. Colorado College Mariucci Arena Midwest Sports Channel, 8 p.m.
 - Tennis at All-American Tournament Austin, Texas, TBA
 - Swimming Alumni Meet Aquatic Center, 12 noon
 - Cross Country at Iowa State Classic (8K) Ames, Iowa, 10:30 a.m.
- Sunday,
Oct. 20

 - Tennis at All-American Tournament Austin, Texas, TBA
 - Golf at Duke Invitational Duke Golf Club Raleigh-Durham, N.C. Oct. 20-21, All Day



GOLF

LINKSTERS AT DUKE INVITE: The Golden Gophers finish off the fall season Oct. 20-21 at the Duke Invitational. The 15-team meet includes North Carolina State, Georgia Tech, Maryland, Northwestern, Florida Southern, Virginia Commonwealth, Old Dominion, Virginia Tech, Wofford, Augusta State, UNC-Charlotte, UNC-Greensboro, Charleston, Minnesota and Duke. All action will be played at the Duke Golf Club in Durham, N.C.

BY THE NUMBERS: Senior **MARK HALVERSON** (Fargo, N.D.) leads the team with a 72.1 stroke average followed by junior **ROB KERR** (Pointe Claire, Quebec) at 72.3, freshman **MARTIN Le MESURIER** (South Hampton, England) at 74.0 and sophomore **BILL THOMPSON** (Wayzata, Minn.) at 74.4. Those four have started in all three tournaments with three different individuals starting in the five position.

BALANCING ACT: Once again, Minnesota's balanced attack led them to a top five finish at the Wolverine Invitational on Oct. 5-6. The Golden Gophers had four of their five starters in the top 25 for the third consecutive time.

HAIL TO THE BRIT: Big Ten Freshman of the Year candidate Martin Le Mesurier of South Hampton, England, has started all three tournaments and has placed in the top 20 in each of them. He is third on the team with a 74.0 stroke average.



CROSS COUNTRY

HARRIERS AT IOWA STATE CLASSIC ON OCT. 19: The University of Minnesota men's cross country team travels to Ames, Iowa, for the Iowa State Classic on Saturday, October 19. The 12-team men's field includes runners from Illinois State, South Dakota, Missouri-Kansas City, Kansas, McKendree, Northern Iowa, Creighton, Drake, Life, Minnesota-Duluth, Minnesota and No. 22 Iowa State. The 8K race, which will be held at the Iowa State Cross Country Course, will start at 10:30 a.m.



TENNIS

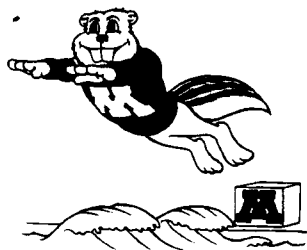
NETTERS TO CHALLENGE ALUMNI: The Golden Gophers will open the home portion of their 1996-97 schedule this weekend as they host past Maroon and Gold stars in the Alumni match. Friday evening's first serve will be at 6:30 p.m., at the 98th Street Club in Bloomington, Minn.

CHICOINE WINS KENTUCKY TOURNAMENT: Sophomore **TOM CHICOINE** (Neeah, Wis.) defeated David McNamara of Middle Tennessee State 6-1, 7-6 on Sunday afternoon to win the Singles A Draw of the H.H. Downing Falls Tennis Classic, hosted by the University of Kentucky at the Downing Outdoor Tennis Center in Lexington, Ky.

Chicoine won four matches on the weekend, going to three sets in just one of the wins. The second-year player from Neenah, Wis., was 25-19 last season as a freshman playing mainly at No. 4 singles. He is expected to compete at No. 2 or 3 singles for the Golden Gophers when the team portion of the schedule begins later this season.

Chicoine and doubles partner **JOHN CHEREGI** (Skokie, Ill.) advanced to the semifinals of the Doubles A draw before losing by the score of 8-4 to a doubles team from the University of Louisville. The duo of freshman **AARON DVO-RAK** (Bloomington, Minn.) and senior **TIM GEORGE** (Long Lake, Minn.) won two matches before losing in the semifinals of the Doubles B draw. Golden Gopher sophomore **MARTIN KRISTOFFERSEN** (Portgrunn, Norway) was victorious in his first match before being eliminated in the third round of the Singles B draw.

ICE VOLLEYS AHEAD: Following the Alumni match, the team will travel in two different directions for the weekend of Oct. 25-27. Part of the squad will compete in the Florida State Invitational in Tallahassee, Fla., while the remainder of the squad is scheduled to compete in the Tulane Invitational in New Orleans, La. After traveling to the Regional Singles Championships (Nov. 1-4), the Maroon and Gold will close out the fall schedule by hosting the annual Ice Volleys tournament at the Burnsville Racquet Club from Nov. 9-10. The Golden Gophers will entertain USC, Notre Dame, and Clemson in what has become one of the top tennis tournaments in the nation.



SWIMMING AND DIVING

1996 SWIMMING & DIVING SCHEDULE

DATE	MEET	RESULT/TIME
Oct. 19	Alumni Meet (Aquatic Center)	Noon
Oct. 26	Intra-squad (Aquatic Center)	Noon
Nov. 1	Tar Heel Invitational (Chapel Hill, N.C.)	6 p.m.
Nov. 2	North Carolina (Chapel Hill, N.C.)	TBA
Nov. 16	Nebraska (Aquatic Center)	6 p.m.
Nov. 22	Minnesota Invitational (Aquatic Center)	11 a.m.
Dec. 20	Miami & Clemson (Miami, Fla.)	TBA
Jan. 10	Kansas (Aquatic Center)	7 p.m.
Jan. 11	Gold Country Invitational (Aquatic Center)	11 a.m.
Jan. 18	Northwestern (Evanston, Ill.)	2 p.m.
Jan. 25	Iowa (Aquatic Center)	4 p.m.
Jan. 31	Quad Duals - Purdue & Wisconsin (AC)	6 p.m.
Feb. 14	Minnesota Challenge (Aquatic Center)	6 p.m.
Feb. 27	Big Ten Championships (Bloomington, Ind)	11 a.m.
Mar. 6	Go-Pher-It Invitational (Aquatic Center)	3 p.m.
Mar. 14	NCAA Diving - Zone Qualifying (AC)	TBA
Mar. 27	NCAA Championships (Aquatic Center)	Noon

TANKERS OPEN SEASON THIS WEEK: The University of Minnesota men's swimming and diving team will open the 1996-97 season Saturday at the Aquatic Center with the annual alumni meet at noon.

VETS TO LEAD TEAM: Last season, the Golden Gophers won their first Big Ten team title since 1926 and snapped Michigan's 10-year stranglehold on the top spot in the conference in the Wolverines' home pool.

Leading the charge for the Golden Gophers this season is a veteran crew which includes four underclassmen and one senior. Juniors **TY BATHURST** (Albuquerque, N.M./Eldorado) and **MANOLIS LENTARIS** (Hania, Creete, Greece/Reynolds, Ore.), sophomores **JONATHON McLEOD** (Regina, Sask./Sheldon Williams) and **MARTIN ZIELINSKI** (Bloomington, Minn./Jefferson) and senior **MATT SCHLESSMAN** (Avon, Ohio/St. Ignatius) lead a talented group looking to get back to the top of the Big Ten standings.

Bathurst is a five-time Big Ten finalist and was an honorable mention All-American last season as a member of two relays.

Lentaris returns after winning 14 of the 21 events he was entered in during the regular season. He placed in three individual events (200, 500 and 1650 free) and was a member of two Big Ten champion relay squads at the 1996 Big Ten

Championships. Lentaris suffered a non-swimming injury after the conference championships and was unable to compete at the NCAA's.

McLeod returns to Gold Country after spending a year north of the border training for the Olympics for his native Canada. He last swam for Minnesota during the '94-95 season and was a Big Ten finalist in the 200 fly, 200 and 400 IM as well as earning All-America honors as a member of the 800 free relay team.

Another returning member of the All-Big Ten squad is Martin Zielinski. He had a solid freshman season pushing veteran Bernie Zeruhn much of the year. He was a three-event Big Ten finalist and two-event honorable mention All-American last season.

The final member of the group is the veteran tri-captain Schlessman. His resume includes 12 Big Ten placings, six honorable mention All-America awards and one All-America certificate.

OTHER KEY PERFORMERS: The Maroon and Gold also return other key performers who have Big Ten and NCAA championship experience. This group includes **JEREMY RIENTS** (Jr., Apple Valley, Minn.), **ERIEK HULSEMAN** (Jr., Edina, Minn.), **JOHN CAHOY** (So., Hudson, Wis.), **MITCH HENKE** (Sr., Mandan, N.D.) and **ISAAC BJORKLUND** (Sr., New Brighton, Minn./Irondale).

Rients placed in three individual events at the Big Ten championships and was a member of two honorable mention All-America relay squads. Hulseman placed in the 100 and 200 back at the Big Ten's and was also an honorable mention All-American. Cahoy and Henke were two-event Big Ten finalists while Bjorklund will be Minnesota's top returning diver placing in each event at the Big Ten's.

KEY NEWCOMERS: Some of the freshman looking to make an impact include **YOAV MEIRI** (Jerusalem, Israel), **OSCAR GODOI** (Sao Jose do Rio Preto, Brazil) and **BILL BISHOP** (Barrington, Ill).

Meiri was a member of the Israeli national team and is strong in three events (IM, fly, back). Godoi is the South American champion in the 100 breast and Dale hopes to use him in the 200 breast as well. Bishop was a junior national and Olympic Festival champion and Dale believes he will respond well to the pressure of swimming in the Big Ten.

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA



SPORTS NEWS

Bierman Field Athletic Building 516 15th Avenue Southeast Minneapolis, MN 55455 (612) 625-4090 Fax 625-0359

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 8, 1996

TWO GOLDEN GOPHER FOOTBALL TICKET OFFERS ON SALE

Two Golden Gopher football ticket offers are available to fans for purchase.

The Big Ten Package is a partial season ticket plan that includes conference games against Michigan State (Oct. 19), Michigan (Oct. 26) and Illinois (Nov. 16). The cost is \$36. Purchasers will receive the same lower level end zone seat location for all three games.


With each Big Ten Package bought, fans will receive a free certificate for discounted round-trip travel on Sun Country Airlines.

Sun Country has extended the travel period from now through March 31, 1997. The airline has also added Harlingen, Texas, Salt Lake City and Costa Rica as new destinations.

Pioneer Press Gopher Fun Packs are also available for purchase. Fans receive four upper deck end zone tickets, four hot dogs and four Cokes for \$39. The offer is good for the Michigan State game and Illinois contest.

For more information, call the Athletics Ticket Office at (612) 624-8080 or 1-800-U-GOPHER.

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA



SPORTS NEWS

Bierman Field Athletic Building 516 15th Avenue Southeast Minneapolis, MN 55455 (612) 625-4090 Fax 625-0359

For Immediate Release

Oct. 8, 1996

GOLDEN GOPHER/FOX 29/CIRCUS PIZZA GOODSPTS BASKETBALL CLINIC SET FOR SATURDAY AT WILLIAMS ARENA

The University of Minnesota in conjunction with Circus Pizza and Fox 29, will host a free youth basketball clinic at Williams Arena, on Saturday, Oct. 12, 1996, at 9:30 a.m. Boys and girls ages 5-13 can dribble, shoot free throws and go through team drills with Golden Gopher coaches and players. Following the clinic there will be an autograph and photo session with the team.

The clinic is free of charge and is open to kids ages 5-13. The clinic begins at 9:30 a.m. and will end at Noon. For more information, or to register, please call 625-4879.



SPORTS NEWS

Bierman Field Athletic Building 516 15th Avenue Southeast Minneapolis, MN 55455 (612) 625-4090 Fax 625-0359

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 9, 1996

WRESTLING TO HOST FALL COACHES CLINIC AND WORKSHOP


The University of Minnesota wrestling team will hold its 1996 Fall Coaches Clinic and Workshop on Friday, October 18 through Saturday, October 19 at Bierman Field Athletic Building.

College, high school and club coaches are encouraged to attend the camp that will be conducted by Minnesota Head Coach J Robinson and his staff. The camp will feature former three-time Golden Gopher NCAA All-American Billy Pierce, World Cup champion Troy Steiner and four-time NCAA All-American and current Fresno State Assistant Coach Gerry Abas.

The two-day clinic and workshop will teach coaches on the overall aspects of wrestling as well as strength training, academics and legal issues.

The cost of the clinic is \$65 for persons who pre-register and \$70 at Bierman Field Athletic Building on Friday, October 18 from 12:30 p.m. until 1:00 p.m. All coaches attending the clinic will receive a free lower level ticket to the Golden Gophers Homecoming football game against Michigan State. For pre-registration and additional information, contact Lois Blum at the U of M wrestling office at (612) 625-1013.

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA



SPORTS NEWS

Bierman Field Athletic Building 516 15th Avenue Southeast Minneapolis, MN 55455 (612) 625-4090 Fax 625-0359

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE


October 9, 1996

HOCKEY FRESHMAN PAGEL SIDELINED WITH INJURY

Golden Gopher hockey freshman Rico Pagel was injured at practice on Monday of this week and will miss approximately three to four weeks with an injury to his left shoulder. The injury occurred in an intrasquad scrimmage during a scramble in the corner while Pagel and others were battling for a loose puck. Pagel, from Minnetonka, Minn., is one of eight freshmen on the Golden Gopher roster this season.

The Golden Gophers open the 1996-97 season with the Faceoff Classic (Hall of Fame exhibition game) at the Target Center against Boston University at 7 p.m. Saturday evening. The home regular season opener is the following weekend (Oct. 18-19) against three-time defending WCHA champion Colorado College.

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA



SPORTS NEWS

Bierman Field Athletic Building 516 15th Avenue Southeast Minneapolis, MN 55455 (612) 625-4090 Fax 625-0359

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 12, 1996

GOLDEN GOPHER SOPHOMORE ADVANCES TO SEMIFINALS


University of Minnesota sophomore Tom Chicoine advanced to the semifinals in the singles competition during the second day of the three-day H.H. Downing Falls Tennis Classic at the Downing Outdoor Tennis Center, hosted by the University of Kentucky in Lexington, Ky.

Chicoine was a straight set winner over Dan Spaner of Kentucky in the third round of the Singles A draw, winning 6-2, 6-2. Chicoine, the top-seeded player in the draw, faces Trey Eubanks of Michigan State in the semifinals Sunday.

Chicoine and doubles partner John Cheregi were defeated in the semifinals of the Doubles A draw. The duo of freshman Aaron Dvorak and senior Tim George lost in the semifinals of the Doubles B draw. Golden Gopher sophomore Martin Kristoffersen was defeated in the third round of the Singles B draw.

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

SPORTS NEWS

The logo features a stylized gopher mascot wearing a dark sweater with white stripes on the sleeves and a white scarf. The gopher is positioned behind the word "SPORTS" in the "SPORTS NEWS" title. The word "NEWS" is in a larger, outlined font. Above the title, the words "Release Note" are written in a cursive script and underlined.

Bierman Field Athletic Building 516 15th Avenue Southeast Minneapolis, MN 55455 (612) 625-4090 Fax 625-0359

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 14, 1996,

GOPHERS NAME CHARLES CUNNINGHAM TO MEN'S BASKETBALL COACHING POSITION

The University of Minnesota Department of Men's Athletics announced today that Charles Cunningham has been hired as an assistant basketball coach. Cunningham comes to Minnesota from Arkansas State University where he served as an assistant basketball coach under Head Coach Dickey Nutt last season. Prior to Arkansas State, Cunningham had collegiate coaching stints at Murray State (1986-88), Western Kentucky (1988-92) and Southwest Missouri State (1992-95).

"We are very excited to have Charles join our coaching staff," said Head Coach Clem Haskins. "We lost an excellent coach in Milton Barnes and we have gained another excellent coach in Charles Cunningham. He's an excellent recruiter and a very good coach and brings with him over 20 years of coaching experience. Charles will add to the already outstanding staff we have with Larry Davis and Bill Brown."

Known across the country as an excellent recruiter, Cunningham was responsible for the recruiting of Popeye Jones of the NBA's Toronto Raptors while at Murray State. He also was responsible for the recruiting of Darnell Mee of the Denver Nuggets and Chris Robinson of the Vancouver Grizzlies when he was at Western Kentucky. In addition to his collegiate experience, Cunningham spent 12 years in the high school ranks at Bradshaw High School in Florence, Ala., where he was an assistant for eight years and the head coach for four years.

A native of Pickensville, Ala., he graduated from the University of North Alabama in 1973 with a bachelor's degree in physical education and history. He went on to earn a master's in education and an education specialist's degree from North Alabama.

Cunningham and his wife Denese have two grown children. Robin, 20, is a student at the University of Missouri where she is working on her Journalism degree, and Damon, 26, spent four years in the U.S. Air Force and is currently living in Sheffield, Ala.

NOTE: Coach Haskins and Coach Cunningham will be available for comment between 4:30-5:00 in the post-game media room in the east end of Williams Arena.



SPORTS NEWS

Bierman Field Athletic Building 516 15th Avenue Southeast Minneapolis, MN 55455 (612) 625-4090 Fax 625-0359

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 15, 1996

HOCKEY PLANS 75TH ANNIVERSARY OPENING WEEKEND

The University of Minnesota hockey team is celebrating its 75th anniversary season, and has planned a weekend full of special events surrounding this weekend's regular-season opening series against three-time defending WCHA Champion Colorado College.

Friday evening's 7:05 p.m. game will be highlighted with the unveiling of the addition of Mike Crowley to the Mariucci Arena All-American mural, located in the southeast corner of the building. More than 20 former Golden Gopher All-Americans will be a part of a special pre-game ceremony honoring Crowley, a Hobey Baker Award finalist last season as a sophomore.

Pre-game festivities surrounding Saturday evening's 8:05 p.m. contest will feature 42 former Golden Gopher hockey captains as part of a pre-game ceremony to officially kick off the Golden Gophers' 75th anniversary hockey season. The second game of the series will include the unveiling of a new banner of John Mariucci, and will mark the first game this season in which a Golden Gopher player will wear a special number 75 jersey in a game. A different player will wear the jersey for each Golden Gopher home game during the 1996-97 season in honor of Mariucci. There will be a pre-game laser light show with fireworks before both games on the weekend.

Other events planned throughout the course of the 1996-97 season include a special 75th anniversary weekend for all former Golden Gopher hockey players and coaches the weekend of Feb. 14-15. Also, during the month of January, fans will have the chance to vote for the all-time favorite Golden Gopher hockey moment. A special 75th anniversary video will be sold throughout the state beginning Nov. 1, and a special line of Golden Gopher 75th anniversary Champion sportswear apparel will be available for purchase.