

GOLDEN GOPHER BASEBALL

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Weekly Release

On Tap This Week: Minnesota (3-0) will play games against No. 12 Washington, the defending Pac-10 champion, San Diego State, Portland and Oregon State in the San Diego Classic, Feb. 20-22, before completing the trip with a rematch against San Diego State and a three-game stint with San Diego.

- Friday, Feb. 20 — Washington, Noon
- Saturday, Feb. 21 — San Diego State, 9 p.m.
- Sunday, Feb. 22 — Portland, Noon & Oregon State, 4 p.m.
- Tuesday, Feb. 24 — at San Diego State, 4 p.m.
- Friday, Feb. 27 — at San Diego, 4 p.m.
- Saturday, Feb. 28 — at San Diego, 3 p.m.
- Sunday, March 1 — at San Diego, 3 p.m.

Minnesota Opens the Season With Sweep of Nebraska: The Golden Gophers defeated the Nebraska Cornhuskers twice Monday, Feb. 16, at the Metrodome to earn the series sweep. Minnesota downed Nebraska 11-4 and earned a 6-4 win in the nightcap to add to its 6-3 win in 11 innings the previous night.

On Sunday in the season opener, sophomore **Matt Scanlon (Richfield, Minn.)** blasted a three-run home run in the bottom of the 11th inning to lead the Golden Gophers to a 6-3 win in the season opener Feb. 15.

Minnesota took an early one-run lead and carried a 2-1 advantage into the ninth. Nebraska took the lead with a two-run ninth inning, and Minnesota answered with an RBI single by sophomore **Mark Devore (Bloomington, Minn.)** to send the game into extra innings. In the bottom of the 11th, Devore singled to center and junior **Matt Brosseau (North Oaks, Minn.)** reached on an infield single to set up Scanlon's game-winner.

Junior **Brad Pautz (Reedsville, Wis.)** earned the win for the Golden Gophers, pitching two innings of scoreless baseball. Minnesota starter **Ben Birk (St. Paul, Minn.)** pitched eight innings, striking out a career-high 10 batters, but did not figure in the decision.

In the first game Monday, Minnesota scored eight runs in the last two innings to earn the 11-4 win. Junior **Jim Egan (Brooklyn Center, Minn.)** led the team, knocking in three runs with a double in the bottom of the four-run seventh inning. Sophomore **Kelly Werner (Eau Claire, Wis.)** earned the win, pitching 2 2/3 innings of scoreless baseball.

In the second game, Minnesota held off a late-inning surge by the

MINNESOTA SCHEDULE/RESULTS

Feb. 15	Nebraska*	W, 6-3 (11)
Feb. 16	Nebraska (9)	W, 11-4
Feb. 16	Nebraska (7)	W, 6-4
Feb. 17-22	<i>San Diego Classic (San Diego, Calif.)</i>	
Feb. 20	Washington*	Noon
Feb. 21	San Diego State*	9 p.m.
Feb. 22	Portland	Noon
Feb. 22	Oregon State*	4 p.m.
Feb. 24	@ San Diego State*	4 p.m.
Feb. 27	@ San Diego*	4 p.m.
Feb. 28	@ San Diego*	3 p.m.
March 1	@ San Diego*	3 p.m.
March 4	Iowa State*	6 p.m.
March 6-8	<i>Hormel Foods Baseball Classic (H.H.H. Metrodome)</i>	
March 6	vs. Rutgers	6:30 p.m.
March 7	vs. California*	1:30 p.m.
March 8	vs. Connecticut*#	1:15 p.m.
March 10	St. Scholastica	6:30 p.m.
March 11	Gustavus Adolphus	6:30 p.m.
March 13	Mankato State*	6:30 p.m.
March 24	Northern Iowa	1:30 p.m.
March 24	UW-Milwaukee	6:30 p.m.
March 25	UW-Milwaukee	Noon
March 27	Purdue*	6:30 p.m.
March 28	Purdue* (2)	2 p.m.
March 29	Purdue*#	1 p.m.
April 1	@ Northern Iowa	3 p.m.
April 3	Iowa*	3 p.m.
April 4	Iowa*# (2)	2 p.m.
April 5	Iowa*	1 p.m.
April 7	St. John's	3 p.m.
April 10	@ Michigan*	3 p.m.
April 11	@ Michigan* (2)	1 p.m.
April 12	@ Michigan*	1 p.m.
April 15	@ Iowa State	3 p.m.
April 17	@ Illinois*	3 p.m.
April 18	@ Illinois* (2)	1 p.m.
April 19	@ Illinois*	1 p.m.
April 21	St. Thomas	3 p.m.
April 24	Indiana*	6:30 p.m.
April 25	Indiana* (2)	4 p.m.
April 26	Indiana*	1 p.m.
April 29	Viterbo College	6:30 p.m.
May 1	@ Michigan State*	7 p.m.
May 2	@ Michigan State* (2)	4 p.m.
May 3	@ Michigan State*	1 p.m.
May 5	St. Cloud State	6:30 p.m.
May 8	@ Northwestern*	3 p.m.
May 9	@ Northwestern* (2)	1 p.m.
May 10	@ Northwestern*	1 p.m.
May 14-17	Big Ten Tournament	TBA
May 21-24	NCAA Regionals	TBA
May 29-June 6	College World Series Omaha, Neb.	

All Games are Central Time
 * Games broadcast on KKMS-AM (980)
 # Games broadcast on Midwest Sports Channel

Fact Box

SUPER START

With its three-game sweep of Nebraska last weekend at the Metrodome, Minnesota opens the season with a 3-0 mark for the first time since 1980. The 1980 squad opened with two wins at Texas Lutheran and one at Texas. The school record for the best start was set in 1935 when the Golden Gophers opened with nine straight wins. That 1935 squad went on to notch a 17-3 overall record and win the Big Ten championship with an 8-3 mark in conference play.

G O L D E N G O P H E R B A S E B A L L

Cornhuskers to earn the 6-4 victory. Egan went three-for-three in the game with a triple and an RBI single, and sophomore **Adam Horton (New Ulm, Minn.)** turned in a two-for-three performance with an RBI double.

Junior **Kai Freeman (Shorewood, Ill.)** earned his first win of the season, and Pautz got the save for the Golden Gophers.

In the Series: Minnesota has played the teams it will meet during its trip to the West Coast only five times in the past:

- The series with Washington is tied at 2-2. The Huskies won the last meeting with a 9-1 victory over the Golden Gophers at last year's Hormel Classic in the Metrodome (3/1/97).

- Oregon State won the only meeting with Minnesota in 1990. The Beavers picked up a 7-3 win in San Jose, Calif., on March 22, 1990.

- This week's games with San Diego State, Portland and San Diego will mark the first meetings between the teams.

About Anderson: In his 17th season at the helm, Golden Gopher Head Coach **John Anderson** holds a career record of 563-369-3 and a Big Ten mark of 233-133. He is one of the youngest coaches in the nation to surpass the 500-win plateau and is the second active Big Ten coach to reach 200 conference victories. Anderson has led the Golden Gophers to four Big Ten titles (1982, 1985, 1988, and 1992) in his tenure at the U of M.

Birk Sets Career High with 10 Strikeouts: Sophomore **Ben Birk** set a career high when he fanned 10 batters in Minnesota's win over Nebraska Feb. 15, surpassing his previous high of nine set in a 7-5 loss to Mankato State last year (April 30) at Siebert Field.

Minnesota with the Bat: The Golden Gophers racked up 23 runs on 39 hits in their sweep of the Cornhuskers. The team reached double figures for hits in all three games (15, 13, 11) and carries a .364 batting average into its games in San Diego. Through three games last season, the team had only scored 13 runs on 27 hits.

Sophomore **Adam Horton** is the early-season leader with a .571 batting average (4-7), including a team-high three doubles.

Junior **Jim Egan** leads the team with five RBIs in the first three games.

Records Watch: Junior All-America candidate **Robb Quinlan (Maplewood, Minn.)** is poised to climb to the top of Minnesota's record book for career doubles. With his school single-season record of 29 doubles last year, he is currently tied for seventh place, just two doubles away from Gary Jost, who had 40 doubles during his career from 1979-82.

Career Doubles:

No.	Player	Years
61	Brent Gates	1988-91
59	Mark Merila	1991-94
51	Charlie Nelson	1991-94
45	Tony Bender	1992-95
	Jeff Monson	1988-91
40	Gary Jost	1979-82
38	Robb Quinlan	1996-present
	Bob Keeney	1994-97
	Bryan Guse	1994-97
	Jay Anderson	1986-89
	Tim McIntosh	1984-86

37	Bill Mobilia	1991-94
36	Terry Steinbach	1981-83
	Dan Wilson	1988-90

1997 Review: The Golden Gophers finished with a 30-24 overall record for their 35th consecutive winning season and took fifth in the Big Ten with a 15-10 mark. The team finished strong, winning seven of its final eight games.

Senior pitcher **Mike Diebolt**, who set the single-season strikeout record previously held by Dave Winfield, was named first-team All-Big Ten along with outfielder **Robb Quinlan**, who set the single-season mark with 29 doubles.

Infielder **Eric Welter** and pitchers **Ted Zrust** and **Justin Pederson** were honored on the third-team All-Big Ten squad. A total of nine letterwinners, including Quinlan and six position starters, return to the 1998 team.

Who's Back: Despite losing the services of 11 seniors to graduation, Minnesota returns nine letterwinners with considerable experience. Junior outfielder **Robb Quinlan** highlights the group of returners. A first-team All-Big Ten selection, Quinlan set the single-season school mark with 29 doubles last year. Other experienced returners include senior center fielder **Mark Groebner (Coon Rapids, Minn.)**, junior right fielder **Craig Selander (West St. Paul, Minn.)**, sophomore third baseman **Matt Scanlon**, sophomore shortstop **Mark Devore** and junior second baseman **Matt Brosseau**.

On the Mound: Minnesota's pitching staff will be characterized by its improvement and increased depth from one season ago. Leading the group will be sophomore left-hander **Ben Birk** who emerged from fall workouts as the No. 1 starter. Rounding out the probable starting rotation are senior right-hander **Jason Dobis (Little Falls, Minn.)** and junior right-handers **Kai Freeman** and **Brad Pautz**.

Minnesota Baseball to Honor Coach "Ike": The Golden Gophers honored a special part of Minnesota's baseball tradition at this year's Pro-Alumni Game when the team retired the jersey of longtime volunteer assistant coach Herb "Ike" Isakson. Isakson, who retired from active coaching following last season, dedicated 34 years to the Golden Gopher baseball team as a volunteer coach. An honorary "M" letterwinner, Isakson also received the Men's Athletics Distinguished Service award. Later this season, his number will be hung on the walls of Siebert Field, joining the numbers of Paul Molitor, Dave Winfield, Dave Chelesnik and Dick Siebert.

The Program: The Golden Gopher baseball program is one filled with a history of success and pride. Among the facts:

- 83 winning seasons
- 35 consecutive winning seasons
- Only five losing seasons in the last 63 years
- 17 Big Ten Championships, 15 in the last 42 seasons
- 21 NCAA appearances
- Five College World Series appearances
- Three NCAA titles

Professionally Speaking: Six former Golden Gophers are currently members of Major League rosters. Minnesota's current Major Leaguers include Minnesota Twins Paul Molitor, Terry Steinbach and Brent Gates, Atlanta Braves Denny Neagle and

G O L D E N G O P H E R B A S E B A L L

Kerry Ligtenberg and Seattle Mariner Dan Wilson. In addition, Brian Raabe is playing on a major league roster in Japan.

Home Field, Dome Field Advantage: Minnesota will play 29 home games this season with 17 at the Metrodome (home of the Minnesota Twins), including the Golden Gophers' Big Ten opener vs. Purdue, March 27-29. In the month of March, Minnesota will play all 14 of its games in the Metrodome. The other 12 home games will be played at Siebert Field, Minnesota's on-campus home.

Hormel Classic Slated for March 6-8: The Golden Gophers will play host to the Hormel Foods Baseball Classic, which annually attracts some of the top collegiate baseball teams in the country, March 6-8 at the Metrodome. This year, Minnesota, California, Connecticut and Rutgers comprise the tourney field.

March 6	California vs. Connecticut	12:15 p.m.
March 6	Rutgers vs. Minnesota	6:30 p.m.
March 7	California vs. Minnesota	1:30 p.m.
March 7	Amateur Baseball Clinic	4:30-6 p.m.
March 7	Connecticut vs. Rutgers	7 p.m.
March 8	Connecticut vs. Minnesota	1:15 p.m.
March 8	Rutgers vs. California	5 p.m.

KKMS-AM (980) and Midwest Sports Channel to Broadcast Games in 1998: The University of Minnesota announced that KKMS-AM (980) will broadcast 40 games, including all of Minnesota's Big Ten Conference games. Paul Barnes will be entering his third year as the radio voice of the Golden Gophers.

Midwest Sports Channel will televise four games beginning with the Connecticut vs. Minnesota game in the Hormel Foods Baseball Classic March 8. Other games on MSC include the March 29 matchup with Purdue, the first game of the doubleheader with Iowa on April 4 and the first game of the April 25 doubleheader with Indiana. Former Golden Gopher center fielder Ryan Lefebvre will handle the broadcast duties for MSC.

Minnesota Fax-On-Demand: Information on the 1998 Golden Gopher baseball team is available to members of the media on Fax-On-Demand. To access, the information, media must have a PIN number available by calling (770) 399-3066.

To access information (after obtaining a PIN number), please call 1-800-300-2050. The Big Ten passcode is 282. Cell numbers for Minnesota baseball are:

2260	Entire release
2261	Roster/Schedule
2263	Last game report

Minnesota's 1998 Record When...

Home	3-0
Metrodome	3-0
Siebert Field	0-0
Away	0-0
Neutral Site	0-0
Day Games	2-0
Night Games	1-0
On Turf	3-0
On Grass	0-0
Vs. Left-handed Starters	1-0
Vs. Right-handed Starters	2-0
Against Top 25 Teams	0-0
One-Run Games	0-0
Two-Run Games	0-0
Extra-Innings Games	1-0
Scoring First	2-0
Scoring in the First Inning	1-0
Opponents Score First	1-0
Ahead After 5 Innings	2-0
Behind After 5 Innings	0-0
Tied After 5 Innings	1-0
Ahead Going Into Final Inning	2-0
Behind Going Into Final Inning	0-0
Tied Going Into Final Inning	1-0
Doubleheaders	2-0
Teams Combine For Less Than 10 Runs	1-0
Teams Combine For Between 10-19 Runs	2-0
Teams Combine For 20 or More Runs	0-0
Scoring 5 or More Runs	1-0
Scoring 4 Runs or Fewer	2-0
Allowing 5 or More Runs	0-0
Allowing 4 Runs or Fewer	3-0
Hitting Multiple Home Runs	0-0
February	3-0
March	0-0
April	0-0
May	0-0
Sunday	1-0
Monday	2-0
Tuesday	0-0
Wednesday	0-0
Thursday	0-0
Friday	0-0
Saturday	0-0
Current Streak	Won last three
Longest Winning Streak	3 (2/15 to 2/16)
Longest Home Winning Streak	3 (2/15 to 2/16)
Longest Road Winning Streak	N/A
Longest Losing Streak	N/A
Longest Home Losing Streak	N/A
Longest Road Losing Streak	N/A
Largest Winning Margin	7 vs. Nebraska (2/16)

University of Minnesota Baseball 1998
Overall Statistics for Minnesota (as of Feb 16, 1998)
(All games Sorted by Batting avg)

Record: 3-0-0 Home: 3-0-0 Away: 0-0-0 Conference: 0-0-0

Player	AVG	GP-GS	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	TB	SLG%	BB	HBP	SO	GDP	OB%	SF	SH	SB-ATT	PO	A	E	FLD%
Adam Horton.....	.571	3-3	7	2	4	3	0	0	2	7	1.000	0	0	1	0	.571	0	0	0-0	18	1	0	1.000
Mark Devore.....	.556	2-2	9	2	5	0	0	0	2	5	.556	0	0	1	0	.556	0	0	1-2	4	9	1	.929
Mike Arlt.....	.500	3-2	10	2	5	0	0	0	1	5	.500	1	0	1	0	.545	0	0	1-1	2	0	0	1.000
Rick Brosseau.....	.500	3-2	8	1	4	0	0	0	2	4	.500	1	0	1	0	.556	0	0	0-0	6	11	0	1.000
Jim Egan.....	.444	3-2	9	1	4	1	1	0	5	7	.778	0	0	0	0	.400	1	0	0-1	3	0	0	1.000
Craig Selander.....	.364	3-3	11	5	4	1	0	0	1	5	.455	2	0	3	0	.462	0	0	1-2	6	0	1	.857
Matt Scanlon.....	.333	3-3	12	4	4	1	0	1	4	8	.667	1	1	2	0	.400	1	0	1-1	2	4	1	.857
Jeremy Negen.....	.250	3-3	8	2	2	1	0	0	1	3	.375	2	0	1	0	.400	0	0	1-2	21	2	0	1.000
Robb Quinlan.....	.231	3-3	13	2	3	0	0	0	1	3	.231	0	0	3	0	.231	0	0	2-2	7	1	1	.889
Matt Brosseau.....	.222	2-2	9	1	2	0	0	0	0	2	.222	0	0	4	0	.222	0	0	0-0	3	7	0	1.000
Mark Groebner.....	.200	2-2	10	1	2	0	0	0	1	2	.200	0	0	3	0	.200	0	0	1-1	6	0	0	1.000
Josh Holthaus.....	.000	1-0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	0	0	1	0	.000	0	0	0-0	0	1	0	1.000
Rob LaRue.....	.000	1-0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	0	0	0	0	.000	0	0	0-0	1	0	0	1.000
Totals.....	.364	3-3	107	23	39	7	1	1	20	51	.477	7	1	21	0	.402	2	0	8-12	81	39	4	.968
Opponents.....	.295	3-3	105	11	31	6	0	1	10	40	.381	4	0	21	0	.321	0	3	1-3	73	29	9	.919

LOB - Team (21), Opp (20). DPs turned - Team (3), Opp (2). TPs turned - Team (0), Opp (1).

(All games Sorted by Earned run avg)

Player	ERA	W-L	APP	GS	CG	SHO/CBO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	2B	3B	HR	BF	B/Avg	WP	HBP	BK	SFA	SHA
Ben Birk.....	0.00	0-0	1	1	0	0/0	0	8.0	5	1	0	2	10	1	0	0	31	.185	1	0	0	0	2
Kelly Werner.....	0.00	1-0	2	0	0	0/0	0	3.0	3	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	11	.273	0	0	0	0	0
Brad Pautz.....	0.00	1-0	2	0	0	0/0	1	2.2	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	8	.000	0	0	0	0	0
Kai Freeman.....	4.50	1-0	1	1	0	0/0	0	6.0	8	4	3	2	4	1	0	1	27	.320	0	0	0	0	0
Jason Dobis.....	5.68	0-0	1	1	0	0/0	0	6.1	11	4	4	0	3	4	0	0	28	.407	0	0	1	0	1
Dan McGrath.....	18.00	0-0	1	0	0	0/0	0	1.0	4	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	7	.571	1	0	0	0	0
Totals.....	3.00	3-0	3	3	0	0/0	1	27.0	31	11	9	4	21	6	0	1	112	.295	2	0	1	0	3
Opponents.....	6.66	0-3	3	3	0	0/0	0	24.1	39	23	18	7	21	7	1	1	117	.364	2	1	0	2	0

PB - Team (1), Negen 1. SB/ATT - Negen (1-2), Birk (1-2), Dobis (0-1).

University of Minnesota Baseball 1998
Game Results for Minnesota (as of Feb 16, 1998)
(All games)

Game date	Opposing team	Score	r	h	e/	r	h	e	Inns	Overall	Conference	Pitcher of record	Attend Time
Feb 15, 1998	Nebraska	W 6-3	6	15	4/	3	9	2	(11)	1- 0- 0	0- 0- 0	Pautz (W 1-0)	396 3:24
Feb 16, 1998	Nebraska	W 11-4	11	13	0/	4	13	5	9	2- 0- 0	0- 0- 0	Werner (W 1-0)	- 2:41
Feb 16, 1998	Nebraska	W 6-4	6	11	0/	4	9	2	7	3- 0- 0	0- 0- 0	Freeman (W 1-0)	276 2:00

*Conference game
#Tournament game
() extra inning game