



SPORTS NEWS

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

For Immediate Release

January 5, 1998

10 WRESTLERS RANKED IN BIG TEN WRESTLING COACHES' POLL

Ten Minnesota wrestlers are ranked in the Jan. 5 Big Ten Conference Wrestling Coaches poll, including three athletes who are ranked No. 1 in their weight class. No other Big Ten school had all 10 of its starters listed in the poll.

Senior Jason Davids is ranked No. 1 at 142 pounds by the coaches, and junior Chad Kraft is No. 1 at 150 pounds. Davids and Kraft, both two-time All-Americans, are also both ranked No. 1 in the nation at their respective weights. Junior Josh Holiday is the top-ranked wrestler at 158 pounds.

Other ranked Minnesota wrestlers include freshman Brett Lawrence, who is fifth at 118 pounds; junior Pat Connors, second at 126; junior Troy Marr, third at 134; senior Zac Taylor, fourth at 167; junior Tim Hartung, second at 190; and senior Shelton Benjamin, second at heavyweight.

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

Jan. 7, 1998

TWO GOLDEN GOPHERS NAMED BIG TEN ATHLETE OF THE MONTH

Senior wrestler Jason Davids and freshman swimmer Alex Massura were named Big Ten athletes of the month for December today by the conference office.

Davids, a Forest Lake, Minn., native, was named co-athlete of the month along with Michigan's Jeff Catrabone. The No. 1 ranked wrestler in the nation at 142 pounds, Davids has posted a 19-0 overall record with 12 pins for the No. 3 Golden Gophers this season. The two-time All-American won individual titles at the Bison and Northern Opens and has posted an 8-0 mark with five pins in Minnesota's dual meets this season.

Massura, a native of Belo Horizonte, Brazil, held three of the nation's top 25 fastest times through the month of December, including the second-fastest time in the 200 backstroke (1:45.33) and third-fastest time in the 100 backstroke (48.88). A sprint freestyle and backstroke specialist, Massura has competed in seven different events this season, the most of any swimmer on the team. In addition, the 1996 Olympian currently holds three season-best times for the Golden Gophers and most recently won the 200 backstroke in a Dec. 19 dual meet at Hawaii.



SPORTS NEWS

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For Immediate Release

January 8, 1998

LAND O'LAKES BECOMES MAJOR SPONSOR OF UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA ATHLETICS

The University of Minnesota Men's Athletics Department announced today that it has "Got Milk," after agreeing to a multi-year sponsorship of U of M athletics with Land O'Lakes.

The sponsorship, a three-year, \$242,500 commitment from the Minnesota-based supplier of dairy products, includes a cooperative marketing program designed to promote University of Minnesota athletics as a family-fun activity, as well as milk and milk products as part of a healthy diet.

"We saw the opportunity to help an institution dedicated to the education, health and well-being of people throughout our community, state and region," said Dan Hanson, vice president, Land O'Lakes Fluid Dairy Division. "Land O'Lakes is a farmer-owned cooperative, and we know a large number of our farmer-members, employees and customers have or will attend the University and we all benefit from its leadership."

"We're teaming up with Land O'Lakes to help make Golden Gopher sporting events a great activity for families," said Mark Dienhart, director of men's athletics at the University of Minnesota. "Everything from discounted 'Land O'Lakes Family Ticket Packs' to our coaches encouraging children to drink milk will be a part of the overall package."


While Land O'Lakes has partnered with the University of Minnesota and other organizations on specific events in the past, this is the first time the company has implemented a comprehensive sponsorship program.

"Partnering with the University is just a good fit," Hanson said. "We pride ourselves on producing outstanding dairy products, and the University prides itself on producing outstanding students and student-athletes."

Land O'Lakes Inc., a Minnesota-based food and agriculture company, is a leading supplier of quality dairy products.

Media Note: For more information, contact Pat Forcica at the U of M at (612) 625-0507 or Lydia Botham at Land O'Lakes at (612) 481-2123.

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:

Jan. 8, 1998

GOLDEN GOPHER MEN'S GYMNASTICS TEAM TO OPEN SEASON THIS SATURDAY WITH ANNUAL ALUMNI MEET

The Minnesota Golden Gopher Men's Gymnastics team begins its 1998 season with their annual alumni meet Saturday, Jan. 10, at 1:00 p.m. in the Sports Pavilion.

Head Coach Fred Roethlisberger, in his 27th year at the helm, has eight of 10 letterwinners back from a year ago and looks to capture his 12th Big Ten Conference Championship during his tenure.

The Golden Gopher Alumni team, which has yet to lose in the annual meet, will be led by John Roethlisberger, a two-time Olympian and currently one of the country's top-ranked gymnasts. During his time at Minnesota, Roethlisberger, son of Coach Roethlisberger, captured three consecutive NCAA Individual All-Around titles, 1991-93.

The 1998 Golden Gopher Men's Gymnastics team travels to Chicago for the Windy City Invitational, Jan. 17, before facing conference power Ohio State in Columbus, Ohio, Jan. 31. Minnesota hosts Illinois, the first of four dual meets held at the Sports Pavilion, Feb. 7.



SPORTS & NEWS

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

For Immediate Release


January 8, 1998

JACOBSON MRI INDICATES NO SPINAL DISC PROBLEMS; STATUS FOR PENN STATE LISTED AS DOUBTFUL

The University of Minnesota basketball office in conjunction with the University Orthopedic Surgery Department announced today that the results of the magnetic resonance imaging examination (MRI) that senior Sam Jacobson underwent Tuesday evening indicated there were no disc herniations or spinal problems. The results confirmed the original diagnosis of the injury as an acute back sprain. His status is listed as doubtful for Saturday's game at Penn State and hopeful for next Wednesday's game at home vs. Michigan State.

"Sam (Jacobson) is suffering from an acute back sprain," said Dr. James Ogilvie, professor of orthopedic surgery and spine specialist. "The MRI indicated no herniated discs or spinal problems and reaffirmed that the injury is an acute back sprain. Sam has made improvements in range of motion and there is less pain, but he is still doubtful for the Penn State game."

Jacobson's status will be evaluated before the team's departure for Penn State tomorrow.



SPORTS NEWS

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For Immediate Release

Jan. 8, 1998

GOLDEN GOPHER WRESTLING TEAM CLIMBS TO SECOND IN NATIONAL POLLS

The Golden Gopher wrestling team climbed to second behind only Oklahoma State in the Jan. 8 National Wrestling Coaches Association team rankings. It is Minnesota's highest ranking of the season and its highest since the team slipped to second in the country in the final poll of the 1993-94 season after holding the No. 1 spot for two weeks that year. The Golden Gophers had been third in every poll this season prior to today's rankings.

Minnesota is led by two-time All-Americans senior Jason Davids and junior Chad Kraft, who are both ranked No. 1 in the nation at 142 and 150 pounds, respectively, in the Jan. 8 individual rankings released by InterMat and *Wrestling Institute Newsmagazine*. Junior Tim Hartung, the defending Big Ten champion, is ranked second at 190 pounds.

The Golden Gophers take on No. 9 Nebraska Friday night at 7:30 p.m. in the Sports Pavilion before traveling to the National Duals Jan. 17-18 in Iowa City, Iowa.

National Wrestling Coaches Association
Team Rankings • Jan. 8, 1998

1. Oklahoma State
2. Minnesota
3. Iowa
4. Michigan
5. Arizona State
6. Penn State
7. Iowa State
8. Oklahoma
9. Illinois
- Nebraska
11. Pittsburgh
12. Pennsylvania
13. Edinboro
14. Lehigh
15. Lock Haven
16. Cornell
17. Central Michigan
18. Clarion
19. Oregon State
20. Northwestern
21. Oregon
22. West Virginia
- Rider
24. Cal. State Bakersfield
25. Purdue



SPORTS NEWS

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For Immediate Release

January 12, 1998

SUNDET FAMILY GIVES MAJOR DONATION TO THE GIBSON-NAGURSKI FOOTBALL COMPLEX

The University of Minnesota Men's Athletics Department has received a \$500,000 gift from Leland (Lee) and Louise Sundet and their family which will be used to construct a 2,000-square-foot addition to the main entryway of the Gibson-Nagurski Football Complex.

The new addition, which will house the University of Minnesota Men's Athletics Hall of Fame, will feature interactive displays, trophies, banners, a gallery of past players and champions and photos of current Golden Gophers. The open, bright, glassed-in state-of-the-art facility will provide a striking first impression to visitors of the Gibson-Nagurski Football Complex.

The gift, which matches the largest single donation to Men's Athletics, is part of an overall \$2 million contribution to the University of Minnesota which also endows a chair in New Testament & Christian Studies. The Sundet family, longtime supporters of Men's Athletics, have made major gifts in support of University facilities such as the new Mariucci Arena.

"The University of Minnesota has always held a special place in our lives," said Lee Sundet, a 1951 graduate of the University's College of Agriculture. "This donation is in appreciation of the University and also in hopeful anticipation of what it can become."

"The Sundets are great supporters of the University of Minnesota and Golden Gopher athletics," said Director of Men's Athletics Dr. Mark Dienhart. "This most recent gift will go a long way towards giving us the type of football facilities we need in order to be more competitive in the Big Ten Conference."



GOLDEN GOPHER MEN'S ATHLETICS

University of Minnesota • Bierman Field Athletic Building • 516 15th Avenue Southeast • Minneapolis, Minn. 55455
 Phone: 612.625.4090 • Fax: 612.625.0359 • Director: Marc Ryan • Assistant Directors: Bill Crumley and Brad Ruitter

January 12, 1998

Go Online! www.gophersports.com

THIS WEEK IN GOPHER SPORTS

Wed., Jan. 14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✧ Basketball vs. Michigan State Williams Arena MSC (live) WCCO Radio (830) 7 p.m. 	Sat., Jan. 17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✧ Tennis vs. Notre Dame 98th Street (Bloomington) 6 p.m. ✧ Track/Field at Badger Track Classic Madison, Wis. All Day ✧ Wrestling at National Duals Iowa City, Iowa All Day
Fri., Jan. 16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✧ Hockey vs. Denver Mariucci Arena KSTP-AM (1500) 7:35 p.m. ✧ Tennis vs. New Mexico 98th Street (Bloomington) 6 p.m. 	Sun., Jan. 18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✧ Basketball vs. Iowa Williams Arena WCCO-TV (live) WCCO-AM (830) 3 p.m. ✧ Tennis vs. Ohio State 98th Street (Bloomington) 9 a.m. ✧ Wrestling National Duals Iowa City, Iowa All Day
Sat., Jan. 17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✧ Gymnastics at Windy City Invitational Chicago, Ill. 6 p.m. ✧ Hockey vs. Denver Mariucci Arena MSC (live) KSTP-AM (1500) 7:05 p.m. 		

WEEKLY RELEASES

The University of Minnesota Men's Media Relations Office will be producing four separate releases during the 1997-98 academic year. Football, basketball and hockey information will be covered in sport-specific weekly releases, while information "Olympic Sports" will appear each Monday in this release. Please refer any questions to the Men's Media Relations office at (612) 625-4090.

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, January 13:
Head Basketball Coach **Clem Haskins'** media luncheon
- Wednesday, January 14:
Head Hockey Coach **Doug Woog** previews the Denver series
- Thursday, January 15:
Head Basketball Coach **Clem Haskins'** and Michigan State Head Basketball Coach **Tom Izzo's**

- postgame remarks
- Friday, January 16:
Head Wrestling Coach **J. Robinson** previews the National Duals
- Saturday and Sunday, January 17-18:
Head Basketball Coach **Clem Haskins'** and Iowa Head Basketball Coach **Tom Davis'** postgame remarks

GYMNASTICS

THIS WEEK: The Golden Gophers travel to Chicago, Ill. to take part in the Windy City Invitational Saturday, Jan. 17 at 6 p.m.

FLASHBACK: For the 31st time in as many tries, the Golden Gophers were defeated by the University of Minnesota alumni team. The alumni team was led by two-time Olympian John Roethlisberger and Frank Ticknor, a senior captain on the '97 team.

INJURY FRONT: The Golden Gophers have been slowed by a rash of injuries to key contributors. **DAN BOOTS** (Jr, Pearland, Texas, **CHAD CONNER** (So, Dallas, Texas), **TODD GUILBEAU** (Fr, Houston, Texas) and **BOB HUBBARD** (Sr, Phoenix, Ariz.) were held out of the alumni meet and their status for the Windy City Invitational is uncertain.

NATIONAL RANKINGS: The Golden Gophers enter the 1998 season ranked ninth in the preseason poll by GymInfo. Minnesota finished seventh in the final 1997 rankings.

BEATTY SHINES: Senior co-captain **GEORGE BEATTY** (Aberdeen, N.J.) led the Minnesota effort with a first place finish in the floor exercise competition. He added second-place finishes on the pommel horse and the vault and a third-place finish on the high bar.



SOLID DEBUT: Sophomore **RYAN WINTERBOURNE** (Anaheim, Calif.) made his Golden Gopher debut in the alumni meet. Winterbourne, who did not compete last year, finished second in the floor exercise and third in the all-around.

COACH ROETHLISBERGER: Head Coach Fred Roethlisberger is entering his 27th year at the helm of the University of Minnesota Gymnastics program. Roethlisberger has led his team to 11 Big Ten Championships during his tenure.

SENIOR LEADERSHIP: Senior co-captains **Bob Hubbard** (Phoenix, Ariz.) and **Beatty** will be counted on to lead the young Golden Gopher squad this season. The three-year letterwinners, along with **MICHAEL MAMAKOS** (Huntington, N.Y./UCLA), are the only seniors on this year's roster.

SCOREBOARD

TOP GOLDEN GOPHER FINISHERS ANNUAL ALUMNI MEET 1/10/98

All-Around:

3. Ryan Winterbourne, SO 52.20

Floor Exercise:

1. George Beatty, SR 9.40

2. Ryan Winterbourne, SO 9.30

Pommel Horse:

2. George Beatty, SR 9.60

Vault:

2. George Beatty, SR 9.30

3. Lindsey Fang, SO 9.25

High Bar:

3. George Beatty, SR 9.15

GOPHER FLASHES

SEASON OPENER: The Golden Gophers open their 1998 season at the Windy City Invitational in Chicago, Ill., Jan. 17. Second-ranked Ohio State and third-ranked Iowa are among the competitors. Sophomore **LINDSEY FANG** (Allentown, Pa.) captured 18th place in the all-around in his very first collegiate meet as Minnesota finished seventh at last year's event.

BIG TEN OPENER: Minnesota travels to Columbus, Ohio, Jan. 31., to face perennial power Ohio State. Last season against the 1997 Big Ten champions, the Golden Gophers were narrowly defeated by a score of 228.725-228.50.

HOME OPENER: The Golden Gophers host No. 7 Illinois at the Sports Pavilion, Feb. 7. No. 6 Nebraska, No. 3 Iowa and No. 13 Illinois-Chicago are upcoming home opponents for Minnesota.

NCAA CHAMPIONSHIPS: The Golden Gophers are looking to get back to the NCAA Championships in University Park, Pa., April 16-18, for the first time since 1993. The NCAA East Regionals are set for April 4 in Amherst, Mass.

SWIMMING & DIVING

THIS WEEK: The 3-1 Golden Gophers are idle until Jan. 23-24, when they swim against No. 16 Nebraska and No. 20 Texas A&M at the Nebraska Triangular in Lincoln, Neb.

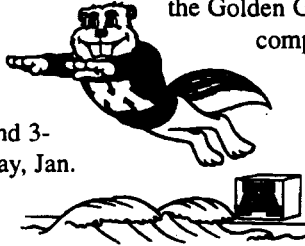
WHO TO WATCH: Freshman diver **DAN CROASTON** (Champlin Park, Minn.) has won every event he has competed in this season, hauling in 13 titles in his first season as a Golden Gopher. Most recently, Croaston registered NCAA Championship standard scores on both the 1-meter and 3-meter boards at the Gold Country Invitational Saturday, Jan. 10. He dived season-best scores for six dives against Northwestern Jan. 9 (1-M: 286.88; 3-M: 315.15) and season-best scores for 11 dives at the Gold Country Invitational (1-M: 544.30; 3-M: 606.30).

STOCKPILED: While the Golden Gophers have one blemish on their 3-1 record, their swimmers and divers have found ways to keep the season next to perfect. Besides Croaston's individual 13 first-place finishes, a handful of other Golden Gophers have raked in the wins. Senior freestyler and breaststroker **TY BATHURST** (Albuquerque, N.M.) has won seven of the 10 events he has competed in, taking second and third in two other of the events. December Big Ten Swimmer of the Month fresh-

man **ALEX MASSURA** (Belo Horizonte, Brazil) has taken 11 titles in the 15 events he has competed in, while sophomore **BILL BISHOP** (Barrington, Ill.) has won eight of 13 events. Butterfly specialist **MARTIN ZIELINSKI** (Bloomington, Minn.) has also been successful, taking seven of 12 events.

TID BITS:

✓ In its four dual meets this season, Minnesota has been out scoring its opponents by an average of 57 points. Additionally the Golden Gophers have won both the invitationals they have competed in.



✓ The Golden Gophers already have swam 13 NCAA consideration standard times.

✓ The next two triangular meets the Golden Gophers compete in will feature their only ranked competition since the Nov. 7-8 meet against now-No. 19 North Carolina. Minnesota will face No. 16 Nebraska and No. 20 Texas A&M at the Nebraska Triangular in Lincoln, Neb. (Jan. 23-24) and then swim against No. 21 Purdue and No. 25 Wisconsin at the Triple Duals in Madison, Wis. (Jan. 30-31).

RANKINGS: Minnesota is slated 15th in the nation according to the CSCAA Speedo America Top 25 Poll (Dec. 18). The highest the Golden Gophers have been ranked is 12th when the poll debuted November 13.

SCOREBOARD

OVERALL RECORD: 3-1; BIG TEN RECORD: 1-1
TOP INDIVIDUAL EVENT TIMES
(1997-98)

50 FREE — 20.38, Ty Bathurst (1st, Minn. Invite)
100 FREE — 45.16, Ty Bathurst (1st, Minn. Invite)
200 FREE — 1:39.52*, Alex Massura (1st, at Iowa)
500 FREE — 4:29.15, Bill Bishop (exb., Minn. Invite)
1000 FREE — 9:21.53, Bill Bishop (1st, vs. UNC)
1650 FREE — 15:29.78, Bill Bishop (1st, Minn. Invite)
100 BACK — 48.88#*, Alex Massura (1st, vs. UNC)
200 BACK — 1:45.53#*, Alex Massura (1st, Minn. Invite)
100 BREAST — 55.79*, Ty Bathurst (1st, Minn. Invite)
200 BREAST — 2:03.90, Chris Wood (1st, vs. UNC)
100 FLY — 48.54, Martin Zielinski (1st, Minn. Invite)
200 FLY — 1:50.07, Martin Zielinski (1st, Minn. Invite)
200 IM — 1:51.40, Jono McLeod (1st, Minn. Invite)
400 IM — 3:56.77, Bill Bishop (1st, Minn. Invite)

* personal best
+ Minnesota Varsity Record
Minnesota Freshman Record

GOPHER FLASHES

INTO THE FUTURE: Following the Nebraska Triangular Jan. 23-24, Minnesota will swim against No. 21 Purdue and No. 25 Wisconsin at the Triple Duals in Madison, Wis., Friday and Saturday, Jan. 30-31.

LAST ACTION: Minnesota crushed Northwestern, 148-78, Friday, Jan. 9 at the Aquatic Center. The Golden Gophers took 12 of 13 events in the victory. The following day at the Aquatic Center, Minnesota won the Gold Country Invitational with 1189.5 total points. The U of M captured 14 of 17 titles en route to their second invitational win of the year.

Minnesota was led by freshman diver **DAN CROASTON** (Champlin Park, Minn.) who won both boards with season-best scores both Friday and Saturday. The Golden Gophers also counted on freshman **ALEX MASSURA** (Belo Horizonte, Brazil) and sophomore **BILL BISHOP** (Barrington, Ill.) who brought home four event titles in the two meets.

TENNIS

THIS WEEK: The 48th-ranked Golden Gophers kick off their dual match season with a trio of competitors Friday through Sunday, Jan. 16-18. Minnesota matches up against Head Coach **DAVID GEATZ'S** alma mater 46th-ranked New Mexico January 16, followed by Region IV foe 23rd-ranked Notre Dame January 17 and Big Ten opponent Ohio State January 18. Both Friday's and Saturday's matches begin at 6 p.m., while Sunday's competition begins at 9 a.m. All matches are played at the 98th Street Racquet Club in Bloomington, Minn.

WHO TO WATCH: Junior **TOM CHICOINE** (Neenah, Wis.) will try to guide the youthful Golden Gophers to their fifth Big Ten Championship in the 1990s. Chicoine is the U of M's No. 1 singles player and finished the fall with a sterling 11-4 record, while capturing the Seminole Fall Tennis Classic title.

The No. 2 doubles team of sophomore captain **MARTIN MICHALOWSKI** (Ottawa, Ontario) and freshman **TYSON PARRY** (Chatham, Ontario) capped off the fall with the team's best doubles record at 11-3. The pair won three championships during the fall season.

THE LINEUP: The probable starting lineup for the Golden Gophers is as follows:

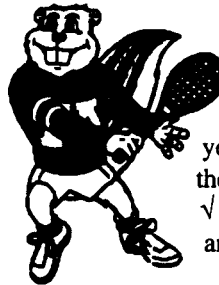
No. 1 **TOM CHICOINE** (Neenah, Wis.)

- No. 2 **ADAM SELKIRK** (St. Joseph, Mo.)
- No. 3 **MARTIN MICHALOWSKI** (Ottawa, Ont.)
- No. 4 **JORGE DUENAS** (Santo Domingo, Dominican Rep.)
- No. 5 **TYSON PARRY** (Chatham, Ont.)
- No. 6 **JON SVENSSON** (Kristianstad, Sweden)

Doubles

- No. 1 Chicoine/Duenas
- No. 2 Michalowski/Parry
- No. 3 Selkirk/Svensson

COURT NOTES:



√ The squad has no seniors and only three juniors. On a roster of 10 players, there are five newcomers and four freshman

√ Minnesota is coming off a 12-14 season last year, finishing third in the conference and advancing to the NCAA Regional finals.

√ The Golden Gophers lead both New Mexico (3-1) and Ohio State (35-11) in the all-time series records. They are 8-10 all-time against Notre Dame.

√ The last time Minnesota played New Mexico, the Lobos came away with 4-3 victory. The Golden Gophers lost to the Buckeyes, 6-1, in their early season meeting at Columbus, Ohio. Minnesota defeated Notre Dame, 4-2, in the NCAA Regional Semifinals last season in Champaign, Ill.

SCOREBOARD

Singles	Overall	Dual	Tourn.	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	#6
Tom Chicoine	11-4		11-4	*					
Adam Selkirk	4-8		4-8		*				
M. Michalowski	9-5		9-5			*			
Jorge Duenas	11-5		11-5				*		
Tyson Parry	8-7		8-7					*	
Jon Svensson	6-7		6-7						*
Aaron Dvorak	2-4		2-4						
M. Kristoffersen	3-5		3-5						
Ed Marques	1-6		1-6						
Voke Okoh	0-2		0-2						

Doubles	Overall	Dual	Tourn.	#1	#2	#3
Chicoine/Duenas	5-6		5-6	*		
Michalowski/Parry	11-3		11-3		*	
Selkirk/Svensson	6-3		6-3			*
Marques/Dvorak	1-1		1-1			
Marques/Okoh	1-1		1-1			
Svensson/Kristoffersen	2-1		2-1			

* anticipated 1998 dual match lineup

GOPHER FLASHES

INTO THE FUTURE: After three straight matches, the Golden Gophers will travel to East Lansing, Mich. Jan. 24-26 for the Big Ten Singles Championships.

LAST ACTION: Minnesota has not competed since hosting the Ice Volleys Tournament, Nov. 8-9.

THE SCOOP: With a six-time Canadian junior champion in Tyson Parry, a No. 1 singles player from the Dominican Republic Davis Cup Team in Jorge Duenas, a top-rated Florida junior in Ed Marques and top 10 Swedish junior in Jon Svensson, Minnesota arguably has one of the best incoming classes in the Big Ten and nation.

RANKINGS: The University of Minnesota is ranked No. 48 in the nation according to the ITA's fall rankings (Dec. 9). The next rankings will not be available until mid-January, but can be accessed through the internet at: www.tennisonline.com

TRACK & FIELD

THIS WEEK: The Golden Gopher track and field team travels to Madison, Wis. Saturday Jan. 17 for the Badger Track Classic.

AT THE NORTHWEST OPEN: Minnesota took eight of the 15 events the team competed in at the Northwest Open January 10 at the U of M Field House. Each of the eight events was won by different athletes with the exception of **TOM GERDING** (Waconia, Minn.). The freshman sprinter was the only double event winner for Minnesota. In addition to his part with the winning relay team, the Minnesota state prep record holder in the 400-meter dash took first in the 600-meter dash (1:21.51).

ALL THE BEST: Six athletes registered personal-best marks at the Northwest Open. Sophomore **RON HOFFNER** (Brooklyn Park, Minn.) led a group of three personal-best milers. Hoffner ran a 4:15.17 mile for second place, while freshman **JOSH BRANG** (Winona, Minn.) took fourth (4:16.07) and senior **RICK OBLEMAN** (Regina, Sask.) took fifth (4:18.35). Two runners achieved career-best times in the 3,000-meter run. Sophomore **NATE CLAY** (Eden Prairie, Minn.) won the event in 8:30.27, while junior transfer **MATT CARTER** (Janesville,



Wis.) finished third with a time of 8:44.61.

Tying a career-best length was junior jumper **WIL KURTH** (Rochester, Minn.) who leaped 6-10 (2.08m) to win the high jump.

CORRECTION: Original results from the Northwest Open showed the 4x400 medley relay team running a first-place victory in a school record 2:56.64. Unfortunately the time was entered incorrectly into the results computer at the race. The correct time for the 4x400 relay team of freshmen **BOB QUADE** (Sherburn, Minn.), **TOM GERDING** (Waconia, Minn.) and **ANDY WIBERG** (Roseville, Minn.) and redshirt freshman **STEVE BURKHOLDER** (Superior, Wis.) was 3:23.11 for first place.

SCOREBOARD

TOP INDOOR PERFORMANCES

55m Dash -- Steve Burkholder, 6.75
55m High Hurdles -- Benjamin Jensen, 7.61
600m Hurdles -- Yet to be competed in this season
200m Dash -- Steve Burkholder, 22.68
400m Dash -- Bob Quade, 50.49
600m Dash -- Tom Gerding, 1:21.51
800m Run -- Jason Owen, 1:57.02
Mile Run -- Chad Johnson, 4:14.03
3,000m Run -- Nate Clay, 8:30.27\$
5,000m Run -- Yet to be competed in this season
High Jump -- Wil Kurth, 6-10
Pole Vault -- Vesa Rantanen, 17-4 3/4
Long Jump -- Tyler McCormick, 22-5 1/4
Triple Jump -- Marcus Westberry, -7-7 1/4
Shot Put -- Chad Yanchesky, 54-1 1/4
Pentathlon -- Yet to be competed in this season
Heptathlon -- Yet to be competed in this season

Key:

* NCAA Provisional
! NCAA Automatic
& Minnesota School Record
% Big Ten Record
\$ Personal Best
U of M Freshman Record

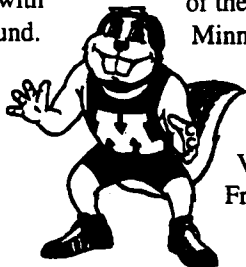
GOPHER FLASHES

INTO THE FUTURE: Minnesota will host one of the largest indoor track and field meets Saturday Jan. 24. The Minnesota Invitational, an open meet, will begin at 9 a.m. in the U of M Field House.

THE SCOOP: Minnesota's track and field team will host an alumni reunion in conjunction with the Minnesota Invitational Saturday, Jan. 24. Food and fun will be served at the U of M Field house following the meet.

WRESTLING

THIS WEEK: The No. 2 Golden Gophers, now 9-0 on the season, travel to the Cliff Keen/NWCA National Wrestling Duals this weekend at Carver Hawkeye Arena in Iowa City, Iowa. Action gets underway Saturday, Jan. 17 with the first and second round championship and consolation matches from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Session II starts at 8 p.m. on Saturday with the championship semifinals and consolation third round. The tournament, which annually showcases the finest in intercollegiate wrestling, concludes Sunday, Jan. 18, at 10 a.m. with the consolation round and at 1 p.m. with the championships finals.



PROBABLE LINEUP AT NATIONAL DUALS:

- 118 — **BRETT LAWRENCE** (Fr., Sandpoint, Idaho)
- 126 — **PAT CONNORS** (Jr., Longview, Wash.) -OR- **BART GOLYER** (Jr., Cedar, Minn.)
- 134 — **TROY MARR** (Jr., Wyoming, Minn.) -OR- **JOSH KREBS** (Fr., Minot, N.D.)
- 142 — **JASON DAVIDS** (Sr., Forest Lake, Minn.)
- 150 — **CHAD KRAFT** (Jr., Lakefield, Minn.)-OR- **BRAD PIKE** (Fr., Brownsdale, Minn.)
- 158 — **JOSH HOLIDAY** (Jr., Anaheim, Calif.)

167 — **ZAC TAYLOR** (Sr., Sandpoint, Idaho) -OR- **DELANEY BERGER** (So., Mandan, N.D.)

177 — **BRANDON EGGUM** (So., Sidney, Mont.)

190 — **TIM HARTUNG** (Jr., Durand, Wis.)

Hwt — **SHELTON BENJAMIN** (Sr., Orangeburg, S.C.) -OR- **BRENT BOESHANS** (So., Beulah, N.D.)

DUALING IT OUT: Sixteen teams will participate in the National Duals including 11 of the nation's top 15 teams. Eight of the nation's top 10 teams will compete including No. 2 Minnesota, No. 3 Iowa, No. 4 Michigan, No. 5 Arizona State, No. 6 Penn State, No. 7 Iowa State, No. 8 Oklahoma and No. 9 Nebraska. Other teams competing include Augsburg, No. 14 Lehigh, Michigan State, Missouri Valley, No. 12 Pennsylvania, No. 11 Pittsburgh, San Francisco State and No. 22 West Virginia.

The Golden Gophers hold a 99-166 all-time record against the teams in the National Duals and a 29-40 mark under Head Coach J Robinson. So far this season, Minnesota has defeated three of the teams (San Francisco State, Iowa State and Nebraska) that will compete in the National Duals.

LAST YEAR AT THE NATIONAL DUALS: The Golden Gophers, then ranked fifth in the country, finished third last year at the National Duals, which were held at the NU Coliseum in Lincoln, Neb. Minnesota started the tournament

more wrestling on next page

SCOREBOARD

TOP INDIVIDUAL RECORDS

Wt.	Name	Overall	Total	Dual	Big Ten	Pins
118	Brett Lawrence	12-3	12-3	7-2	0-0	2
	Leroy Vega	11-2	11-2	0-0	0-0	1
	Julio Alaniz	6-4	6-4	0-0	0-0	0
126	Bart Golyer	16-2	15-1	5-0	0-0	3
	Pat Connors	15-2	7-2	3-1	0-0	4
134	Chad Erikson	11-3	11-3	0-0	0-0	3
	Ty Friederichs	11-7	11-7	0-0	0-0	1
	Pat Connors		8-0	4-0	0-0	3
	Bart Golyer		1-1	1-1	0-0	0
	Josh Krebs	11-6	11-6	2-1	0-0	3
	Troy Marr	17-4	4-1	0-0	0-0	2
142	Jason Davids	19-0	19-0	9-0	0-0	12
	Joe Calavitta	8-2	8-2	0-0	0-0	2
	Troy Marr		14-1	0-0	0-0	0
150	Chad Kraft	8-0	8-0	7-0	0-0	2
	Brad Pike	15-4	15-4	0-1	0-0	3
	Eddie Pak	5-6	5-6	0-0	0-0	0
	Troy Marr		0-1	0-1	0-0	0
158	Tim Kinsella	13-2	13-2	1-0	0-0	1
	Jesse Krebs	6-5	6-5	0-1	0-0	0
	Josh Holiday	16-0	16-0	7-0	0-0	4
167	Delaney Berger	15-1	15-1	2-0	0-0	2
	Zac Taylor	19-1	19-1	7-0	0-0	6
	Mike Cuperus	14-2	14-2	0-0	0-0	5
	Matt Kraft	6-2	6-2	0-0	0-0	0
177	Brandon Eggum	16-0	16-0	8-0	0-0	5
	Kenneth Howard	3-3	3-3	0-0	0-0	1
190	Tim Hartung	17-0	17-0	9-0	0-0	14
	Owen Elzen	7-4	7-4	0-0	0-0	4
HWT	Shelton Benjamin	17-3	17-3	5-2	0-0	6
	Brent Boeshans	13-4	13-4	2-0	0-0	1

GOPHER FLASHES

PIN CITY: Through nine dual meets this season, Minnesota's wrestlers have won 32 matches by pinning their opponents, including a remarkable eight wins by fall in a 57-0 win over Truman State on Dec. 5, 1997. Last year through nine duals, Minnesota had only recorded 17 match wins by pin. Junior **TIM HARTUNG** is the team leader with seven pins in dual meets. Senior **JASON DAVIDS** is second with five. Hartung is also the overall team leader with 14 pins overall, and Davids is second with 12.

No. 2 Minnesota 43, No. 9 Nebraska 3

Friday, Jan. 9, 1998 • Sports Pavilion

- 118 - Brett Lawrence (UM) pinned Tim James (NEB) 1:37
- 126 - No. 7 Pat Connors (UM) pinned Kevin Garcia (NEB) 2:39
- 134 - No. 6 Brad Canoyer (NEB) dec. Bart Golyer (UM) 8-5
- 142 - No. 1 Jason Davids (UM) dec. Jose DeAnda (NEB) 12-5
- 150 - No. 1 Chad Kraft (UM) dec. Allen Hankins (NEB) 9-3
- 158 - No. 7 Josh Holiday (UM) dec. Ryan Bauer (NEB) 19-5
- 167 - No. 7 Zac Taylor (UM) wins by forfeit
- 177 - No. 5 Brandon Eggum (UM) dec. No. 9 Brad Vering (NEB) 7-5
- 190 - No. 2 Tim Hartung (UM) pinned Scott Munson (NEB) 2:22
- HWT - No. 7 Shelton Benjamin (UM) pinned Abe Boomer (NEB) 5:42

WRESTLING

defeating Missouri Valley 48-0. In the second round, Minnesota knocked off No. 4 Penn State 21-10 to advance to the semifinals against Iowa, then the No. 1 ranked team in the country. The Hawkeyes jumped out to an early 12-0 lead on the Gophers and defeated them 23-12. Minnesota then rebounded with a 28-9 victory over No. 9 Michigan State in the consolation round to face Penn State for third place. In that second meeting against the Nittany Lions, the Gophers used four decisions and one major decision to seal the 19-15 win.

After taking third at the National Duals, the Golden Gophers moved to third place in the national polls, the spot they would hold for the rest of the season.

NO. 2 GOPHERS CRUSH NEBRASKA 43-3: The No. 2 Golden Gophers crushed the No. 9 Nebraska Cornhuskers 43-3 Jan. 9 in the Sports Pavilion. Sophomore **BRANDON EGGUM**, ranked fifth in the country at 177 pounds, scored the biggest victory of the evening, defeating Nebraska's ninth-ranked Brad Vering 7-5 to improve to 17-0 on the year.

Four other Golden Gophers won their matches by fall. Freshman **BRETT LAWRENCE** and junior **PAT CONNORS**, the nation's seventh-ranked wrestler at 126 pounds, put Minnesota on top 12-0 at the end of two matches. Lawrence pinned Nebraska's Tim James in 1:37 at 118 pounds, and Connors took 2:39 to stick the Huskers' Kevin Garcia.

Junior **TIM HARTUNG** pinned his 14th opponent of the season, taking care of Nebraska's Scott Munson in 2:22 at 190 pounds. Hartung, ranked second in the country, is now 17-0 on the season. Senior **SHELTON BENJAMIN** scored Minnesota's other pin, defeating Nebraska's Abe Boomer in 5:42.

Minnesota's two top-ranked wrestlers also remained undefeated with victories against the Huskers. Senior **JASON DAVIDS** decisioned Nebraska's Jose DeAnda 12-5 at 142 pounds to record his team-leading 19th win of the season, and junior **CHAD KRAFT** took the 9-3 win over Allen Hankins at 158 pounds to move to 8-0 on the season.

ON A ROLL: With their 43-3 drubbing of Nebraska Jan. 9, the Golden Gophers have won nine straight dual meets this season. In a streak going back to last season, the Golden Gophers have won 14 straight dual meets and 21 of their last 25. In fact, Minnesota has not lost a dual meet since Oklahoma State defeated Minnesota 26-10 last Jan. 31 in Stillwater, Okla.

GOPHERS CLIMB TO HIGHEST RANKING IN FOUR YEARS: The University of Minnesota wrestling team is ranked second in the nation in the latest poll released Jan. 8, 1998, by the National Wrestling Coaches Association and *Amateur Wrestling News*. The Golden Gophers trail only Oklahoma State in the team rankings.

It is the Golden Gophers' highest ranking of the season and their highest since the team slipped to second in the country in the final poll of the 1993-94 season after holding the No. 1 for two weeks that year. The Golden Gophers had been ranked third in every poll this season prior to the Jan. 8 rankings.

LATEST INDIVIDUAL RANKINGS: Individually, two-time All-Americans **JASON DAVIDS** and **CHAD KRAFT**

are the top-ranked wrestlers in their weight classes according to the Jan. 8 *Intermat/W.I.N.* poll. Davids is ranked first at 142 lbs. after placing third at the 1997 NCAA Championships. Kraft, a junior from Lakefield, Minn., is the top ranked wrestler at 150 after his third-place showing at the NCAA meet. Defending Big Ten champion and 1997 All-American **TIM HARTUNG** is ranked second at 190.

Other ranked Minnesota wrestlers include senior All-American **SHELTON BENJAMIN** who is seventh at heavy-weight, senior **ZAC TAYLOR** who is ranked seventh at 167, junior All-American **PAT CONNORS** who is seventh at 126, junior **TROY MARR** who is the 10th-ranked wrestler at 134, junior **JOSH HOLIDAY** who is seventh at 158 pounds and sophomore **BRANDON EGGUM** who is fifth at 177 pounds. Freshman **BRETT LAWRENCE** made his first appearance in the rankings on Jan. 2 and is currently listed as the nation's 15th-ranked wrestler at 118.


IN THE CONFERENCE: Ten Minnesota wrestlers are ranked in the Jan. 5 Big Ten Conference Wrestling Coaches poll, including three athletes who are ranked No. 1 in their weight class. No other Big Ten school had all 10 of its starters listed in the poll.

Senior **JASON DAVIDS** is ranked No. 1 at 142 pounds by the coaches, and junior **CHAD KRAFT** is No. 1 at 150 pounds. Davids and Kraft, both two-time All-Americans, are also both ranked No. 1 in the nation at their respective weights. Junior **JOSH HOLIDAY** is the top-ranked wrestler at 158 pounds.

Other ranked Minnesota wrestlers include freshman **BRETT LAWRENCE**, who is fifth at 118 pounds; junior **PAT CONNORS**, second at 126; junior **TROY MARR**, third at 134; senior **ZAC TAYLOR**, fourth at 167; junior **TIM HARTUNG**, second at 190; and senior **SHELTON BENJAMIN**, second at heavyweight.

SUPER START: Five Golden Gophers are still undefeated this season, led by **JASON DAVIDS** who is a team-leading 19-0 overall and 9-0 in dual meet action. **TIM HARTUNG** and **BRANDON EGGUM** are both 17-0 overall and 9-0 in dual action. **JOSH HOLIDAY** is 16-0 (7-0 in dual meets), and junior **CHAD KRAFT** is 8-0 (7-0 in dual meets). Two others have just lost once...to each other! **ZAC TAYLOR**, tied for the team lead in wins with Davids, is 19-1 overall (7-0 in dual meets), and **DELANEY BERGER** is 15-1 with a 2-0 mark in duals. Berger decisioned Taylor 2-1 to claim the 167-pound title at the Bison Open, and Taylor decisioned Berger 6-2 to take first at the Northern Open.

SUPER START, PART II: The Golden Gophers are 4-0 vs. ranked opponents this season. Minnesota defeated No. 24 Fresno State, 45-3, and No. 19 Cal-State Bakersfield, 39-10, in California, Dec. 14., and No. 6 Iowa State, 20-15, Jan. 4. The Maroon and Gold most recently knocked off the No. 9 Nebraska Cornhuskers 43-3 Jan. 9 at the Sports Pavilion.



SPORTS NEWS

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

For Immediate Release

January 12, 1998

SUNDET FAMILY GIVES MAJOR DONATION TO THE GIBSON-NAGURSKI FOOTBALL COMPLEX

The University of Minnesota Men's Athletics Department has received a \$500,000 gift from Leland (Lee) and Louise Sundet and their family which will be used to construct a 2,000-square-foot addition to the main entryway of the Gibson-Nagurski Football Complex.


The new addition, which will house the University of Minnesota Men's Athletics Hall of Fame, will feature interactive displays, trophies, banners, a gallery of past players and champions and photos of current Golden Gophers. The open, bright, glassed-in state-of-the-art facility will provide a striking first impression to visitors of the Gibson-Nagurski Football Complex.

The gift, which matches the largest single donation to Men's Athletics, is part of an overall \$2 million contribution to the University of Minnesota which also endows a chair in New Testament & Christian Studies. The Sundet family, longtime supporters of Men's Athletics, have made major gifts in support of University facilities such as the new Mariucci Arena.

"The University of Minnesota has always held a special place in our lives," said Lee Sundet, a 1951 graduate of the University's College of Agriculture. "This donation is in appreciation of the University and also in hopeful anticipation of what it can become."

"The Sundets are great supporters of the University of Minnesota and Golden Gopher athletics," said Director of Men's Athletics Dr. Mark Dienhart. "This most recent gift will go a long way towards giving us the type of football facilities we need in order to be more competitive in the Big Ten Conference."

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA



SPORTS NEWS

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For Immediate Release

Jan. 12, 1998

1998 BASEBALL SCHEDULE HIGHLIGHTED BY 30 HOME GAMES; KKMS-AM (980) AND MIDWEST SPORTS CHANNEL TO BROADCAST GAMES

The University of Minnesota released today its 56-game 1998 regular season baseball schedule, which will include 30 home games (18 at the Metrodome and 12 at Siebert Field).

KKMS-AM (980) will broadcast 41 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 centerfielder Ryan Lefebvre will handle the broadcast duties for MSC.

The Golden Gophers open the season with the seventh annual Galyan's Pro-Alumni Game at 1 p.m. on Sunday, Feb. 8. The regular season starts with a three-game series against the Nebraska Cornhuskers Feb. 15-16 at the Metrodome. Minnesota will play one game against Nebraska at 7 p.m. on Feb. 15 and a doubleheader starting at 1 p.m. on Feb. 16.

Minnesota will host the Hormel Foods Baseball Classic at the Metrodome March 6-8. Teams competing in the annual showcase include Rutgers, California and Connecticut.

The Golden Gophers open the Big Ten season March 27-29 when they play host to the Purdue Boilermakers at the Metrodome. Iowa and Indiana will visit Siebert Field for conference games in April. Minnesota travels to Michigan, Illinois, Michigan State and Northwestern in conference action.

The complete 1998 baseball schedule follows:

1998 UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA BASEBALL SCHEDULE

DATE	DAY	OPPONENT	SITE	TIME	RADIO/TV
FEB. 8	SUN.	PRO-ALUMNI GAME	METRODOME	1 p.m.	KKMS AM 980 (L)
FEB. 15	SUN.	NEBRASKA	METRODOME	7 p.m.	KKMS AM 980 (L)
FEB. 16	MON.	NEBRASKA (1-9, 1-7)	METRODOME	1 p.m.	None
Feb. 20	Fri.	Washington	San Diego, Calif.	Noon	KKMS AM 980 (TD/7 p.m.)
Feb. 21	Sat.	San Diego State	San Diego, Calif.	9 p.m.	KKMS AM 980 (L)
Feb. 22	Sun.	Portland	San Diego, Calif.	Noon	None
Feb. 22	Sun.	Oregon State	San Diego, Calif.	4 p.m.	KKMS AM 980 (L)
Feb. 24	Tues.	San Diego State	San Diego, Calif.	4 p.m.	KKMS AM 980 (TD/7 p.m.)
Feb. 27	Fri.	San Diego	San Diego, Calif.	4 p.m.	KKMS AM 980 (TD/9 p.m.)
Feb. 28	Sat.	San Diego	San Diego, Calif.	3 p.m.	KKMS AM 980 (L)
March 1	Sun.	San Diego	San Diego, Calif.	3 p.m.	KKMS AM 980 (L)
MARCH 4	WED.	IOWA STATE (1)	METRODOME	6 p.m.	KKMS AM 980 (TD/7 p.m.)

HORMEL FOODS BASEBALL CLASSIC — METRODOME (California, Connecticut, Minnesota, Rutgers)

MARCH 6	FRI.	California vs. Connecticut	METRODOME	12:15 p.m.	None
		Rutgers vs. Minnesota	METRODOME	6:30 p.m.	None
MARCH 7	SAT.	California vs. Minnesota	METRODOME	1:30 p.m.	KKMS AM 980 (L)
		Amateur Baseball Clinic	METRODOME	4:30-6 p.m.	
		Connecticut vs. Rutgers	METRODOME	7 p.m.	None
MARCH 8	SUN.	Connecticut vs. Minnesota	METRODOME	1:15 p.m.	KKMS AM 980 (L)/MSC
		Rutgers vs. California	METRODOME	5 p.m.	
MARCH 10	TUES.	ST. SCHOLASTICA	METRODOME	6:30 p.m.	None
MARCH 11	WED.	GUSTAVUS ADOLPHUS	METRODOME	6:30 p.m.	None
MARCH 13	FRI.	MANKATO STATE	METRODOME	6:30 p.m.	KKMS AM 980 (L)
MARCH 24	TUES.	NORTHERN IOWA	METRODOME	1:30 p.m.	None
MARCH 24	TUES.	UW-MILWAUKEE	METRODOME	6:30 p.m.	None
MARCH 25	WED.	UW-MILWAUKEE	METRODOME	Noon	None
MARCH 27	FRI.	*PURDUE	METRODOME	6:30 p.m.	KKMS AM 980 (TD 7 p.m.)
MARCH 28	SAT.	*PURDUE (2)	METRODOME	2 p.m.	KKMS AM 980 (L)
MARCH 29	SUN.	*PURDUE	METRODOME	1 p.m.	KKMS AM 980 (L)/MSC
April 1	Wed.	Northern Iowa	Waterloo, Iowa	3 p.m.	None
APRIL 3	FRI.	*IOWA	SIEBERT FIELD	3 p.m.	KKMS AM 980 (TD 7 p.m.)
APRIL 4	SAT.	*IOWA (2)	SIEBERT FIELD	2 p.m.	KKMS AM 980 (L)/MSC
APRIL 5	SUN.	*IOWA	SIEBERT FIELD	1 p.m.	KKMS AM 980 (L)
APRIL 7	TUES.	ST. JOHN'S	SIEBERT FIELD	3 p.m.	None
April 10	Fri.	*Michigan	Ann Arbor, Mich.	3 p.m.	KKMS AM 980 (TD 7 p.m.)
April 11	Sat.	*Michigan (2)	Ann Arbor, Mich.	1 p.m.	KKMS AM 980 (L)
April 12	Sun.	*Michigan	Ann Arbor, Mich.	1 p.m.	KKMS AM 980 (L)
April 15	Wed.	Iowa State	Ames, Iowa	3 p.m.	None
April 17	Fri.	*Illinois	Champaign, Ill.	3 p.m.	KKMS AM 980 (TD/7 p.m.)
April 18	Sat.	*Illinois (2)	Champaign, Ill.	1 p.m.	KKMS AM 980 (L)
April 19	Sun.	*Illinois	Champaign, Ill.	1 p.m.	KKMS AM 980 (L)
APRIL 21	TUES.	ST. THOMAS	SIEBERT FIELD	3 p.m.	None
APRIL 24	FRI.	*INDIANA	SIEBERT FIELD	6:30 p.m.	KKMS AM 980 (TD 7 p.m.)
APRIL 25	SAT.	*INDIANA (2)	SIEBERT FIELD	4 p.m.	KKMS AM 980 (L)/MSC
APRIL 26	SUN.	*INDIANA	SIEBERT FIELD	1 p.m.	KKMS AM 980 (L)
APRIL 29	WED.	VITERBO COLLEGE	SIEBERT FIELD	6:30 p.m.	None
May 1	Fri.	*Michigan State	East Lansing, Mich.	7 p.m.	KKMS AM 980 (L)
May 2	Sat.	*Michigan State (2)	East Lansing, Mich.	4 p.m.	KKMS AM 980 (L)
May 3	Sun.	*Michigan State	East Lansing, Mich.	1 p.m.	KKMS AM 980 (L)
MAY 5	TUES.	ST. CLOUD STATE	SIEBERT FIELD	6:30 p.m.	None
May 8	Fri.	*Northwestern	Evanston, Ill.	3 p.m.	KKMS AM 980 (TD/7 p.m.)
May 9	Sat.	*Northwestern (2)	Evanston, Ill.	1 p.m.	KKMS AM 980 (L)
May 10	Sun.	*Northwestern	Evanston, Ill.	1 p.m.	KKMS AM 980 (L)
May 14-17	Thurs.-Sun.	Big Ten Tournament	TBA		
May 21-24	Thurs.-Sun.	NCAA Regionals	TBA		
May 29-June 6	Fri.-Sat.	College World Series	Omaha, Neb.		

* Big Ten Games
All Games are Central Time



SPORTS NEWS

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For Immediate Release

January 12, 1998

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA TIED FOR 27TH IN SEARS DIRECTORS' CUP STANDINGS

The University of Minnesota is currently tied for 27th-place with 60 points after the fall sports season in the race for the 1997-98 Sears Directors' Cup. Three-time defending champion Stanford University currently leads the way with 290 points.

The all-sports award, presented by Sears and the National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics (NACDA), honors Division I schools with the best performances in 20 sports--10 sports for men and 10 for women.

Sears Directors' Cup points are based on national tournament finishes. Each national champion receives 100 points, while the second place team receives 80 points (exceptions include brackets of eight teams - 2nd=75 points; or brackets of two or four teams - 2nd=50 points)

The Golden Gophers' picked up points in the following sports this fall:

Women's Soccer (9th, 20 points)

Women's Volleyball (17th, 20)

Men's Cross Country (18th, 10)


Women's Cross Country (21st, 10)

Minnesota attained its highest ranking ever last season when they were in fifth-place after the winter sports season. They ended up finishing in 15th-place for the season, the second-best finish ever for the program. The Golden Gophers' highest finish ever in the final standings was a 14th-place showing for the 1993-94 season.

The Golden Gophers' are currently tied for fourth-place with Indiana among the Big Ten schools. Only Michigan, Penn State and Wisconsin are ahead of the Golden Gophers.

Current Sears Cup Directors' Standings: 1. Stanford, 290; 2. North Carolina, 260; 3. Michigan, 200; 4. Nebraska, 190; 5. UCLA, 180; 6. Virginia, 160; 7. BYU, 150; 7. Colorado, 150; 9. Florida, 140; 10. Arkansas, 120; 10. Penn State, 120; 12. Notre Dame, 110; 12. Pepperdine, 110; 14. Connecticut, 100; 14. Wisconsin, 100; Youngstown State, 100; 17. Dartmouth, 80; 17. McNeese State, 80; 17. Old Dominion, 80; 17. Princeton, 80; 17. Southern California, 80; 17. Washington, 80; 23. Clemson, 70; 23. Florida State, 70; 23. Maryland, 70; 23. Santa Clara, 70; **27. Minnesota, 60;** 27. Colorado State, 60; 27. Delaware, 60; 27. Eastern Washington, 60; 27. Indiana, 60; 27. Long Beach State, 60; 27. Oregon, 60; 27. St. Louis, 60; 27. William and Mary, 60.

Other Big Ten schools: 36. Michigan State, 50; 36. Ohio State, 50.



SPORTS NEWS

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

TO: Media Outlets Covering Golden Gopher Basketball
FROM: Marc Ryan, Director of Media Relations
RE: Big Ten Tournament Credentials/Hotel Information
DATE: January 12, 1998

Attached is the credential request/media hotel form needed to cover the Golden Gophers in the 1998 Big Ten Conference Men's Basketball Tournament at the United Center in Chicago.

The Sheraton Hotel & Towers is the media headquarters hotel for the tournament. Room rates for the media are \$138 per night single or double, \$165 for club level and \$189 for the Towers. Rooms are being held at the Sheraton beginning Wednesday, March 4 through Sunday, March 8.

The tournament schedule is as follows (All times are Central):

Thursday, March 5 — First Round

Game 1 (seed #8 vs. seed #9), 1 p.m.
Game 2 (seed #7 vs. seed #10), 3:30 p.m.
Game 3 (seed #6 vs. seed #11), 6 p.m.

Friday, March 6 — Quarterfinals

Game 4 (seed #5 vs. seed #4), Noon
Game 5 (game 1 winner vs. seed #1), 2:30 p.m.
Game 6 (game 2 winner vs. seed #2), 6:30 p.m.
Game 7 (game 3 winner vs. seed #3), 9 p.m.

Saturday, March 7 — Semifinals

Game 8 (winners of games 4 & 5), 1 p.m.
Game 9 (winners of games 6 & 7), 3:30 p.m.


Sunday, March 8 - Finals

Game 8 (winners of games 8 & 9), 1 p.m.

Please send fill out the form completely and fax it to me no later than Tuesday, February 3.
The fax numbers is (612) 625-0359.

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

SPORTS NEWS

The Goldy Gopher mascot is positioned behind the word "SPORTS" in the "SPORTS NEWS" title. The mascot is a cartoon gopher wearing a dark sweater with white stripes on the sleeves and a white "M" on the chest. It is holding a large letter "S" that is part of the word "SPORTS".

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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 16, 1998

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA SPIRIT SQUAD ACHIEVES HIGHEST FINISH IN SCHOOL HISTORY AT NATIONALS

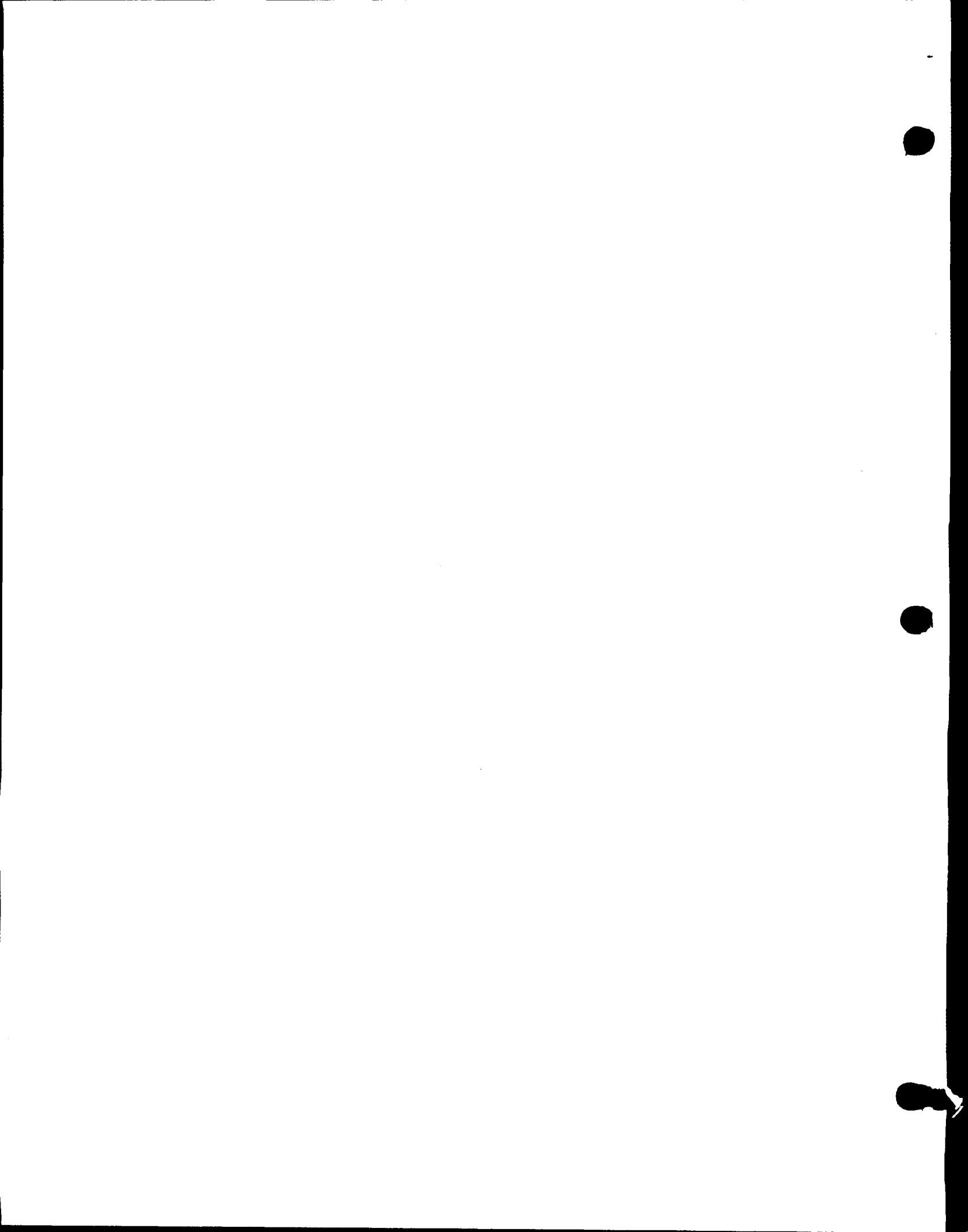
The University of Minnesota spirit squad achieved its highest finish in school history at the 1998 National Competition, January 8-10 in Orlando, Fla. The cheerleaders finished eighth in the nation, the dance team placed seventh and in the mascot competition, Goldy Gopher finished seventh.

The competition drew over 2,000 cheerleader and dance team members from 120 colleges and universities to the Walt Disney World Resort in Orlando.

The University of Minnesota was the only Big Ten Conference school to have all three squads place in the top 10 in each event. The dance team and cheerleaders finished first among Big Ten schools while Goldy Gopher placed second.

Beth Knutson is the head coach of the spirit squads. She is assisted by Paula Smuda (dance team coach), Amber Strzyk (assistant dance team coach), Sam Owens (cheerleader coach), Tom Lord (mascot coach) and Ryan Satre (assistant mascot coach).

The competition will be shown on ESPN several times throughout the year with the premiere airing March 12 at 6:30 p.m.





GOLDEN GOPHER MEN'S ATHLETICS

University of Minnesota • Bierman Field Athletic Building • 516 15th Avenue Southeast • Minneapolis, Minn. 55455
 Phone: 612.625.4090 • Fax: 612.625.0359 • Director: Marc Ryan • Assistant Directors: Bill Crumley and Brad Ruitter

January 19, 1998

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THIS WEEK IN GOPHER SPORTS

Tues, Jan. 20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☐ Basketball at Michigan Crisler Arena ESPN (live) WCCO-AM (830) 6:30 p.m. 	Sat, Jan. 24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☐ Hockey vs. Minnesota-Duluth Mariucci Arena MSC (live) KSTP-AM (1500) 7:05 p.m.
Fri, Jan. 23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☐ Hockey vs. Minnesota-Duluth Mariucci Arena MSC (live) KSTP-AM (1500) 7:35 p.m. ☐ Swimming/ Diving at Nebraska Triangular Lincoln, Neb. 1 p.m./7 p.m. ☐ Wrestling vs. Iowa Williams Arena 7 p.m. 	Sun.-Mon Jan. 25-26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☐ Tennis at Big Ten Singles Champs. East Lansing, Mich. All Day
Sat, Jan. 24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☐ Basketball vs. Ohio State Williams Arena WCCO-TV (Ch. 4) (live) WCCO-AM (830) 1:30 p.m. 		

WEEKLY RELEASES

The University of Minnesota Men's Media Relations Office will be producing four separate releases during the 1997-98 academic year. Football, basketball, hockey and baseball 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.

GOPI ER 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, January 20:
Senior guard **ERIC HARRIS** previews the Michigan and Ohio State games.

Wednesday, January 21:
Head Hockey Coach **DOUG WOOG** previews the Minnesota-Duluth series.

Thursday, January 22:
Senior heavyweight wrestler **SHELTON BENJAMIN** previews the Iowa dual meet.

Friday, January 23:
Junior hockey center **WYATT SMITH** previews the UMD series.

Saturday and Sunday, January 24-25:
Head Minnesota Basketball Coach **CLEM HASKINS'** and Head Ohio State Basketball Coach **JIM O'BRIEN'S** postgame comments

GYMNASTICS

THIS WEEK: The Golden Gophers are off this weekend before traveling to Columbus, Ohio, for a matchup with No. 4 Ohio State, Jan. 31.

FLASHBACK: Minnesota finished seventh at the Windy City Invitational Saturday. The Golden Gophers' 213.850 team points were 14.20 points behind first-place Iowa. Ohio State, Minnesota's next opponent, finished in third place with 222.850 points.

INJURY FRONT: The Golden Gophers have been slowed by a rash of injuries to key contributors. **DAN BOOTS** (Jr., Pearland, Texas), **TODD GUILBEAU** (Fr., Houston, Texas) and **BOB HUBBARD** (Sr., Phoenix, Ariz.) were unable to participate at the Windy City Invitational and their status for the Ohio State dual is still uncertain.

BEATTY SHINES: After a strong performance in Minnesota's exhibition dual last weekend, senior co-captain **GEORGE BEATTY** (Aberdeen, N.J.) led the Golden Gophers' effort with a tie for first place on the vault with a career-high 9.650. Beatty also added a third-place finish on the pommel horse and a 12th-place performance on the horizontal bar.

SOLID PERFORMANCE: Sophomore **CHAD CONNER** (Dallas, Texas) has been slowed in preseason workouts with a shoulder injury, but was able to compete in the Windy City Invitational. Conner finished in sixth place with a career-high score of 9.500 on the vault.

NATIONAL RANKINGS: The Golden Gophers enter the 1998 season ranked ninth in the preseason poll. Minnesota finished seventh in the final 1997 rankings.



COACH ROETHLISBERGER: Head Coach Fred Roethlisberger is in his 27th year at the helm of the University of Minnesota Gymnastics program. Roethlisberger has led his team to 11 Big Ten Championships during his tenure.

SENIOR LEADERSHIP: Senior co-captains Bob Hubbard (Phoenix, Ariz.) and Beatty will be counted on to lead the young Golden Gopher squad this season. The three-year letterwinners, along with **MICHAEL MAMAKOS** (Huntington, N.Y./UCLA), are the only seniors on this year's roster.

SCOREBOARD

TOP GOLDEN GOPHER FINISHERS WINDY CITY INVITATIONAL 1/17/98

All-Around:

18. Lindsey Fang, SO 52.00

Floor Exercise:

T-17. Allen Sopko, FR 9.95

Pommel Horse:

T-3. George Beatty, SR 9.65

T-11. Bob Goss, FR 9.40

14. Lindsey Fang, SO 9.35

Vault:

T-1. George Beatty, SR 9.65

T-6. Chad Conner, SO 9.50

Parallel Bars:

T-7. George Beatty, SR 9.50

Horizontal Bar:

T-12. George Beatty, SR 9.20

GOPHER FLASHES

BIG TEN OPENER: Minnesota travels to Columbus, Ohio, Jan. 31., to face perennial power Ohio State. Last season against the 1997 Big Ten champions, the Golden Gophers were narrowly defeated by a score of 228.725-228.50.

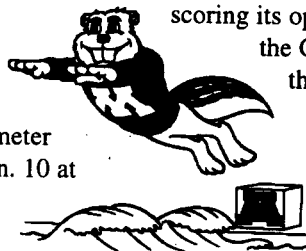
HOME OPENER: The Golden Gophers host No. 7 Illinois at the Sports Pavilion, Feb. 7. The Fighting Illini turned in an impressive performance in the Windy City Invitational with a second-place finish. Illinois edged out perennial power and No. 3 Ohio State by 0.950 points. Sixth-ranked Nebraska, No. 2 Iowa and No. 7 Illinois-Chicago are upcoming home opponents for Minnesota.

NCAA CHAMPIONSHIPS: The Golden Gophers are looking to get back to the NCAA Championship. The NCAA East Regionals are set for April 4 in Amherst, Mass., while the NCAA Championships will be held April 16-18 in University Park, Pa.

SWIMMING & DIVING

THIS WEEK: The 3-1 Golden Gophers swim against No. 16 Nebraska and No. 20 Texas A&M at the Nebraska Triangular in Lincoln, Neb., Friday and Saturday, Jan. 23-24.

WHO TO WATCH: Freshman diver **DAN CROASTON** (Champlin Park, Minn.) has won every event he has competed in this season, hauling in 13 titles in his first season as a Golden Gopher. Most recently, Croaston registered NCAA Championship standard scores on both the 1- and 3-meter boards at the Gold Country Invitational, Saturday, Jan. 10 at the U of M Aquatic Center. He dived season-best scores for six dives against Northwestern, Jan. 9, (1-M: 286.88; 3-M: 315.15) and season-best scores for 11 dives at the Gold Country Invitational (1-M: 544.30; 3-M: 606.30).



events. December Big Ten Swimmer of the Month, freshman **ALEX MASSURA** (Belo Horizonte, Brazil) has taken 11 titles in the 15 events he has competed in, while sophomore **BILL BISHOP** (Barrington, Ill.) has won eight of 13 events. Butterfly specialist **MARTIN ZIELINSKI** (Bloomington, Minn.) has also been successful, taking seven of 12 events.

TID BITS:

√ In its four dual meets this season, Minnesota has been out scoring its opponents by an average of 57 points. Additionally, the Golden Gophers have won both the invitationals they have competed in.

√ The Golden Gophers already have swam 13 NCAA consideration standard times.

√ Minnesota owns 15 of the nation's top 25 times in 18 different events. Leading the Golden Gophers is **ALEX MASSURA**, who has three top times, including the U's highest ranked time and the nation's fifth-best time in the 200-yard backstroke (1:45.53).

RANKINGS: Minnesota is slated 13th in the nation according to the CSCAA Speedo America Top 25 Poll (Jan. 15). The highest the Golden Gophers have been ranked is 12th when the poll debuted November 13.

STOCKPILED: While the Golden Gophers have one blemish on their 3-1 record, their swimmers and divers have found ways to keep the season next to perfect. Besides Croaston's individual 13 first-place finishes, a handful of other Golden Gophers have raked in the wins. Senior freestyler and breastroker **TY BATHURST** (Albuquerque, N.M.) has won seven of the 10 events he has competed in, taking second and third in two other

SCOREBOARD

OVERALL RECORD: 3-1; BIG TEN RECORD: 1-1
TOP INDIVIDUAL EVENT TIMES
(1997-98)

50 FREE — 20.38, Ty Bathurst (1st, Minn. Invite)
100 FREE — 45.16, Ty Bathurst (1st, Minn. Invite)
200 FREE — 1:39.52*, Alex Massura (1st, at Iowa)
500 FREE — 4:29.15, Bill Bishop (exb., Minn. Invite)
1000 FREE — 9:21.53, Bill Bishop (1st, vs. UNC)
1650 FREE — 15:29.78, Bill Bishop (1st, Minn. Invite)
100 BACK — 48.88#, Alex Massura (1st, vs. UNC)
200 BACK — 1:45.53#, Alex Massura (1st, Minn. Invite)
100 BREAST — 55.79*, Ty Bathurst (1st, Minn. Invite)
200 BREAST — 2:03.90, Chris Wood (1st, vs. UNC)
100 FLY — 48.54, Martin Zielinski (1st, Minn. Invite)
200 FLY — 1:50.07, Martin Zielinski (1st, Minn. Invite)
200 IM — 1:51.40, Jono McLeod (1st, Minn. Invite)
400 IM — 3:56.77, Bill Bishop (1st, Minn. Invite)

* personal best

+ Minnesota Varsity Record

Minnesota Freshman Record

GOPHER FLASHES

INTO THE FUTURE: Following the Nebraska Triangular Jan. 23-24, Minnesota will swim against No. 21 Purdue and No. 25 Wisconsin at the Triple Duals in Madison, Wis., Friday and Saturday, Jan. 30-31.

LAST ACTION: Minnesota crushed Northwestern, 148-78, Friday, Jan. 9 at the Aquatic Center. The Golden Gophers took 12 of 13 events in the victory. The following day at the Aquatic Center, Minnesota won the Gold Country Invitational with 1189.5 total points. The U of M captured 14 of 17 titles en route to their second invitational win of the year.

Minnesota was led by freshman diver **DAN CROASTON** (Champlin Park, Minn.) who won both boards with season-best scores both Friday and Saturday. The Golden Gophers also counted on freshman **ALEX MASSURA** (Belo Horizonte, Brazil) and sophomore **BILL BISHOP** (Barrington, Ill.), who brought home four event titles in the two meets.

TENNIS

THIS WEEK: The 48th-ranked Golden Gophers travel to the Big Ten Singles Championships in East Lansing, Mich., Saturday through Monday, Jan. 24-26. The seeded tournament features a main draw of 64 players, housing the conference's top singles players.

DOUBLE TROUBLE: The No. 1 doubles team of sophomore captain **MARTIN MICHALOWSKI** (Ottawa, Ontario) and freshman **TYSON PARRY** (Chatham, Ontario) upset Notre Dame's doubles tandem of Brian Patterson and Jakub Pietrowski, rated fifth in the nation, 8-5 Saturday, Jan. 17 in Burnsville, Minn., for their most impressive win of the year thus far. Michalowski and Parry capped off the fall with the team's best doubles record at 11-3, winning three championships during that season.

FRESHMEN ON FIRE: Minnesota's newcomers came up with big wins in the Golden Gophers' early home challenges over the weekend of Jan. 16-18. No. 6 singles player **JON SVENSSON** (Kristianstad, Sweden) went 3-0 against his competition, including a key 7-5, 6-4 win over Ohio State's Ben Basil in the No. 5 position which sealed the match for Minnesota. Both No. 4 singles player **JORGE DUENAS** (Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic) and No. 5 singles player **TYSON PARRY** (Chatham, Ontario) went 2-1.

BIG TEN SINGLES NOTES:

√ **Minnesota's Past Big Ten Singles Champions:**
(the indoor tournament played solely to determine a conference singles champion was introduced in 1994 after being the *Spartan Invitational* held in East Lansing from 1989-1993)

◇ 1995 - Ross Loel

◇ 1994 - Paul Pridmore

Minnesota had 20 Big Ten singles champions before the 1994 tournament was introduced



√ Current Players at Big Ten Singles Championship Last Season:

TOM CHICOINE (Jr., Neenah, Wis.) -- No. 14 seed; lost in round of 16 of the main draw to Matt Wright (UM)

ADAM SELKIRK (Jr., St. Joseph, Mo.) -- lost in round of 32 of the main draw to No. 1 seed Jamie Gordon (PU); lost in round of 32 of the consolation draw to Chris Struck (MSU)

MARTIN KRISTOFFERSEN (Jr., Portsgrunn, Norway) -- lost in round of 64 of the main draw to No. 8 seed Trey Eubanks (MSU); lost in round of 32 of the consolation draw to Marc Dorfman (PSU)

SCOREBOARD

Singles	Overall	Dual	Tourn.	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	#6
Tom Chicoine	12-6	1-2	11-4	1-2					
Adam Selkirk	5-9	1-1	4-8		1-1				
M. Michalowski	10-7	1-2	9-5		1-0	0-2			
Jorge Duenas	13-6	2-1	11-5			1-0	1-1		
Tyson Parry	10-8	2-1	8-7				0-1	2-0	
Jon Svensson	9-7	3-0	6-7					1-0	2-0
M. Kristoffersen	4-5	1-0	3-5						1-0
Ed Marques	1-6		1-6						
Voke Okoh	0-2		0-2						

Doubles	Overall	Dual	Tourn.	#1	#2	#3
Michalowski/Parry	12-5	1-2	11-3	1-2		
Chicoine/Duenas	7-7	2-1	5-6		2-1	
Selkirk/Svensson	8-3	2-0	6-3			2-0
Kris'ffsen/Svensson	1-0	1-0				1-0
Marques/Dvorak	1-1		1-1			
Marques/Okoh	1-1		1-1			
Svensson/Kris'ffsen	2-1		2-1			

GOPHER FLASHES

INTO THE FUTURE: After the Big Ten Singles Championships Jan. 24-26, Minnesota will not compete again until Saturday, Feb. 14, when the team takes on Kansas in Lawrence, Kan.

LAST ACTION: The Golden Gophers opened their spring schedule with 5-2 wins over New Mexico and Ohio State and a 4-3 loss to No. 23 Notre Dame. With the win over OSU, Minnesota now holds an 11-2 record in Big Ten openers during Head Coach **DAVID GEATZ'S** 12+-year tenure.

RA KINGS: The University of Minnesota is ranked No. 48 in the nation according to the ITA's fall rankings (Dec. 9). The next rankings will be available Feb. 9 and can be accessed through the internet at: www.tennisonline.com

TRACK & FIELD

THIS WEEK: The Golden Gophers host one of the largest indoor track and field meets, the Minnesota Invitational, Saturday, Jan. 24. Field events being at 9 a.m. with the weight throw, while track events get underway at 10:45 a.m. with the 3,000-meter run.

AT THE BADGER CLASSIC: Minnesota junior **MARCUS WESTBERRY** (Minneapolis, Minn.) was the only winner for the Golden Gophers at the Badger Track Classic in Madison, Wis., as he took the triple jump with a leap of 49-0 1/4 (14.91m) Saturday, Jan. 17. Westberry also finished fourth in the long jump (22-7 1/4; 6.89m).

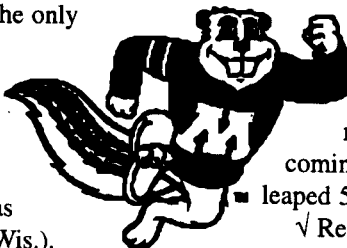
Also placing well for the Maroon and Gold was senior thrower **CHAD YENCHESKY** (DePere, Wis.). Yenchesky led a group of five Golden Gopher placewinners in the shot put with third place (55-7 3/4; 16.96m).

Redshirt freshman **MIKE BROCKWELL** (Edina, Minn.) took third in the pole vault with a vault of 15-3 (4.65m).

ALL THE BEST: Six athletes already registered personal-best marks at the Northwest Open, Saturday Jan. 10. Sophomore **RON HOFFNER** (Brooklyn Park, Minn.) led a group of three personal-best milers. Hoffner ran a 4:15.17 mile for second

place, while freshman **JOSH BRANG** (Winona, Minn.) took fourth (4:16.07), and senior **RICK OBLEMAN** (Regina, Sask.) took fifth (4:18.35). Two runners achieved career-best times in the 3,000-meter run. Sophomore **NATE CLAY** (Eden Prairie, Minn.) won the event in 8:30.27, while junior transfer **MATT CARTER** (Janesville, Wis.) finished third with a time of 8:44.61.

Tying a career-best length was junior jumper **WIL KURTH** (Rochester, Minn.) who leaped 6-10 (2.08m) to win the high jump.



MINNESOTA INVITATIONAL NOTES:

√ The University of Minnesota holds four records at the indoor invitational, the most recent coming in the triple jump in 1994 when Keita Cline leaped 52-11.

√ Returning winners from last season's meet include:

◇ **ADAM FREED** (Proctor, Minn.) - 400-meter dash (49.46)

◇ **TONY RITER** (Shoreview, Minn.) - 3,000-meter run (8:40.48)

◇ **WIL KURTH** (Rochester, Minn.) - high jump (7-1; 2.16m)

SCOREBOARD

TOP INDOOR PERFORMANCES

55m Dash -- Steve Burkholder, 6.71 (1/17)
55m High Hurdles -- Benjamin Jensen, 7.61 (1/10)
600m Hurdles -- Yet to be competed in this season
200m Dash -- Steve Burkholder, 22.68 (1/10)
400m Dash -- Bob Quade, 50.49 (1/10)
600m Dash -- Tom Gerding, 1:21.51 (1/10)
800m Run -- Jason Owen, 1:57.02 (1/10)
Mile Run -- Chad Johnson, 4:14.03 (1/10)
3,000m Run -- Nate Clay, 8:30.27\$ (1/10)
5,000m Run -- Yet to be competed in this season
High Jump -- Wil Kurth, 6-10 (2.08m) (1/10)
Pole Vault -- Vesa Rantanen, 17-4 3/4 (5.30m) (1/10)
Long Jump -- Marcus Westberry, 2-7 1/4 (6.89m) (1/17)
Triple Jump -- Marcus Westberry, 49-0 1/4 (14.91) (1/17)
Shot Put -- Chad Yenchesky, 55-7 3/4 (16.96m) (1/17)
Weight Throw -- Mark Fahey, 48-4 3/4 (14.75m) (1/17)
Pentathlon -- Yet to be competed in this season
Heptathlon -- Yet to be competed in this season

Key:

* NCAA Provisional

! NCAA Automatic

& Minnesota School Record

% Big Ten Record

\$ Personal Best

U of M Freshman Record

GOPHER FLASHES

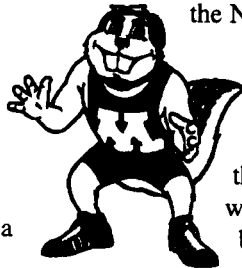
INTO THE FUTURE: The Maroon and Gold will compete at the Nebraska Quadrangular in Lincoln, Neb., Saturday, Jan. 31.

ALUMNI REUNION: Minnesota will host an alumni reunion following the track and field meet Saturday, Jan. 24. Former Golden Gopher track and field athletes are invited to stay and enjoy food and beverages provided by the team.

WRESTLING

THIS WEEK: The No. 2 Golden Gophers, now 13-0 on the season, have a rematch of their win over the No. 3 Iowa Hawkeyes at last weekend's National Duals but this time on their own home turf. The match is set to begin at 7 p.m. in Williams Arena.

IN THE SERIES: With the win over Iowa last weekend, the Golden Gophers recorded their first victory in the series since they defeated the Hawkeyes 23-11 Jan. 26, 1994, during an incredible 18-match winning streak that led the team to the first No. 1 ranking in school history. Friday's match is the 71st meeting between the two teams, and Iowa holds a 51-18-1 advantage in the all-time series.



- 167 — **ZAC TAYLOR** (Sr., Sandpoint, Idaho) -OR- **DELANEY BERGER** (So., Mandan, N.D.)
- 177 — **BRANDON EGGUM** (So., Sidney, Mont.)
- 190 — **TIM HARTUNG** (Jr., Durand, Wis.)
- Hwt — **SHELTON BENJAMIN** (Sr., Orangeburg, S.C.)

MINNESOTA CLAIMS NATIONAL DUALS

TITLE: Senior **SHELTON BENJAMIN** (Orangeburg, S.C.), ranked seventh nationally, provided last-minute fireworks for the No. 2 Golden Gophers, pinning No. 8 Wes Hand in 2:16 to give Minnesota an 18-17 win over the No. 3 Iowa Hawkeyes and its first ever title at the Cliff Keen/NWCA National Wrestling Duals Sunday, Jan. 18 in Iowa City, Iowa. Minnesota trailed 17-12 going into the final match and needed a fall from its heavyweight to win. Benjamin and Hand battled a little over two minutes before Benjamin, now 21-3 on the season, put Hand on his back for the win.

Minnesota fell behind 11-0, its biggest deficit of the season, early in the match with Iowa, losing its first three individual matches. Senior **JASON DAVIDS** (Forest Lake, Minn.), ranked No. 1 at 142 pounds, put the Golden Gophers on the scoreboard with a thrilling 3-1 overtime victory over No. 4 Jeff McGinness. Davids remains undefeated on the year and leads the team with 23 wins.

Juniors **CHAD KRAFT** (Lakefield, Minn.), No. 1 in the

PROBABLE LINEUP VS. IOWA HAWKEYES

(6-2):

- 118 — **BRETT LAWRENCE** (Fr., Sandpoint, Idaho)
- 126 — **PAT CONNORS** (Jr., Longview, Wash.) -OR- **BART GOLYER** (So., Cedar, Minn.)
- 134 — **TROY MARR** (Jr., Wyoming, Minn.)
- 142 — **JASON DAVIDS** (Sr., Forest Lake, Minn.)
- 150 — **CHAD KRAFT** (Jr., Lakefield, Minn.)
- 158 — **JOSH HOLIDAY** (Jr., Anaheim, Calif.)

SCOREBOARD

TOP INDIVIDUAL RECORDS

Wt.	Name	Overall	Total	Dual	Big Ten	Pins
118	Brett Lawrence	14-5	14-5	9-4	0-0	3
	Leroy Vega	11-2	11-2	0-0	0-0	1
	Julio Alaniz	6-4	6-4	0-0	0-0	0
126	Bart Golyer	17-2	16-1	6-0	0-0	3
	Pat Connors	16-4	8-4	4-3	0-0	4
134	Chad Erikson	11-3	11-3	0-0	0-0	3
	Ty Friederichs	11-7	11-7	0-0	0-0	1
	Pat Connors		8-0	4-0	0-0	3
	Bart Golyer		1-1	1-1	0-0	0
	Josh Krebs	11-6	11-6	2-1	0-0	3
	Troy Marr	21-4	7-2	0-0	0-0	2
142	Jason Davids	23-0	23-0	13-0	0-0	13
	Joe Calavitta	8-2	8-2	0-0	0-0	2
	Troy Marr		14-1	0-0	0-0	0
150	Chad Kraft	12-0	12-0	11-0	0-0	2
	Brad Pike	15-4	15-4	0-1	0-0	3
	Eddie Pak	5-6	5-6	0-0	0-0	0
	Troy Marr		0-1	0-1	0-0	0
158	Tim Kinsella	13-2	13-2	1-0	0-0	1
	Jesse Krebs	6-5	6-5	0-1	0-0	0
	Josh Holiday	19-1	19-1	10-1	0-0	4
167	Delaney Berger	15-1	15-1	2-0	0-0	2
	Zac Taylor	22-2	22-2	10-1	0-0	7
	Mike Cuperus	14-2	14-2	0-0	0-0	5
	Matt Kraft	6-2	6-2	0-0	0-0	0
177	Brandon Eggum	21-0	21-0	12-0	0-0	6
	Kenneth Howard	3-3	3-3	0-0	0-0	1
190	Tim Hartung	20-1	20-1	12-1	0-0	15
	Owen Elzen	7-4	7-4	0-0	0-0	4
HWT	Shelton Benjamin	21-3	21-3	9-2	0-0	7
	Brent Boeshans	13-4	13-4	2-0	0-0	1

GOPHER FLASHES

SUPER START: Three Golden Gophers are still undefeated this season, led by **JASON DAVIDS** who is a team-leading 23-0 overall and 13-0 in dual meet action. **BRANDON EGGUM** is 21-0 overall and 9-0 in dual action, and junior **CHAD KRAFT** is 12-0 (11-0 in dual meets). Two others have only lost once. Junior **TIM HARTUNG** is 20-1 after losing 7-6 in double-overtime to Iowa's No. 3 Lee Fullhart at the National Duals. Junior **JOSH HOLIDAY** also lost his first match of the season at the National Duals, a 4-3 loss to No. 13 Sam Kline of West Virginia, and is now 19-1 on the season.

SUPER START, PART II: With victories over No. 3 Iowa and No. 23 West Virginia at the National Duals, the Golden Gophers are 6-0 vs. ranked opponents this season. Minnesota defeated No. 24 Fresno State, 45-3, and No. 19 Cal-State Bakersfield, 39-10, in California, Dec. 14., and No. 6 Iowa State, 20-15, Jan. 4, and No. 9 Nebraska Cornhuskers 43-3, Jan. 9.

WRESTLING

nation at 150 pounds, and **JOSH HOLIDAY** (Anaheim, Calif.), No. 7 at 158 pounds, continued Minnesota's scoring. Kraft decisioned No. 17 Kasey McGillis 8-3, and Holiday held off Ben Uker 9-7. Sophomore **BRANDON EGGUM** (Sidney, Mont.) scored Minnesota's other team points with a 7-3 decision over Iowa's Paul Jenn.

Minnesota lost two hard-fought matches at 167 and 190 pounds. Fifth-ranked **ZAC TAYLOR** (Sr., Sandpoint, Idaho) lost 5-3 to Iowa's Joe Williams, the nation's No. 1-ranked wrestler at 167. Junior **TIM HARTUNG** (Durand, Wis.), No. 2 at 190 pounds, took No. 3 Lee Fullhart into double overtime before Fullhart was awarded a point for a locked hands penalty on Hartung to win the match 7-6. It was Hartung's first loss of the season, moving him to 20-1 on the year.

MINNESOTA BECOMES ONLY FOURTH

TEAM EVER TO WIN NATIONAL DUALS: With its amazing 18-17 win over the Iowa, Minnesota becomes just the fourth team ever to win the National Duals tournament since the tournament branched off from the Virginia Duals in 1989, joining the elite company of four-time champion Oklahoma State, three-time winner Iowa and two-time champ Penn State. Minnesota also became just the seventh team in the tournament's history to advance to the championship finals (Oklahoma State, Iowa, Arizona State, Nebraska, Penn State and Iowa State).

NO. 2 GOPHERS ONLY SECOND TEAM TO BEAT HAWKEYES AT CARVER-HAWKEYE:

The Golden Gophers also became just the second team in history to defeat the Iowa Hawkeyes at Carver-Hawkeye Arena. Iowa had previously lost twice to Penn State. Iowa holds a 102-3 record in its 16-year-old home.

MINNESOTA WINS TITLE BY SMALLEST MARGIN OF VICTORY IN DUALS HISTORY:

With its one-point victory over the Hawkeyes, Minnesota recorded the smallest margin of victory in a title match in the 10-year history of the National Duals. The previous low was Oklahoma State's 17-15 win over Iowa in 1994.

MINNESOTA SECOND IN NATIONAL RANKINGS FOR SECOND STRAIGHT WEEK:

The Golden Gopher wrestling team remained second behind only Oklahoma State for the second straight week in the January 15 National Wrestling Coaches Association/*Amateur Wrestling News* rankings. The Golden Gophers also received one first-place vote in the latest poll. It is Minnesota's highest ranking of the season and its highest since the team slipped to second in the country in the final poll of the 1993-94 season after holding the No. 1 spot for two weeks that year. The Golden Gophers had been third in every poll this season prior to the January 8 ranking.

SIX 20-MATCH WINNERS IN STARTING LINE-UP:

Six Golden Gophers in the starting lineup have won at least 20 matches this season. Senior **JASON DAVIDS** (142) leads the team with a 23-0 record. Senior **ZAC TAYLOR** (167)

is second with a 22-2 record on the season. Other 20-match winners include junior **TROY MARR** (134, Wyoming, Minn.) at 20-4, sophomore **BRANDON EGGUM** (177) is 21-0, junior **TIM HARTUNG** (190) is 20-1 and senior **SHELTON BENJAMIN** (HWT) is 21-3.

LATEST INDIVIDUAL RANKINGS: Individually, two-time All-Americans **JASON DAVIDS** and **CHAD KRAFT** are the top-ranked wrestlers in their weight classes in the Jan. 15 InterMat/*W.I.N.* individual rankings. Davids is ranked first at 142 pounds, after placing third at the 1997 NCAA Championships. Kraft, a junior from Lakefield, Minn., is the top-ranked wrestler at 150 pounds after his third-place showing at the NCAA meet. Defending Big Ten champion and 1997 All-American **TIM HARTUNG** is ranked second at 190 pounds.

Other ranked Minnesota wrestlers include senior All-American **SHELTON BENJAMIN** who is seventh at heavy-weight, senior **ZAC TAYLOR** who is fifth at 167, junior All-American **PAT CONNORS** (Longview, Wash.) who is seventh at 126, junior **TROY MARR** who is the seventh-ranked wrestler at 134, junior **JOSH HOLIDAY** who is eighth at 158 pounds and sophomore **BRANDON EGGUM** who is fifth at 177 pounds. Freshman **BRETT LAWRENCE** (Sandpoint, Idaho) made his first appearance in the rankings on Jan. 2 and is currently listed as the nation's 15th-ranked wrestler at 118.

IN THE CONFERENCE: Ten Minnesota wrestlers are ranked in the Jan. 5 Big Ten Conference Wrestling Coaches poll, including three athletes who are ranked No. 1 in their weight class. No other Big Ten school had all 10 of its starters listed in the poll.

Senior **JASON DAVIDS** is ranked No. 1 at 142 pounds by the coaches, and junior **CHAD KRAFT** is No. 1 at 150 pounds. Davids and Kraft, both two-time All-Americans, are also both ranked No. 1 in the nation at their respective weights. Junior **JOSH HOLIDAY** is the top-ranked wrestler at 158 pounds.

Other ranked Minnesota wrestlers include freshman **BRETT LAWRENCE**, who is fifth at 118 pounds; junior **PAT CONNORS**, second at 126; junior **TROY MARR**, third at 134; senior **ZAC TAYLOR**, fourth at 167; junior **TIM HARTUNG**, second at 190; and senior **SHELTON BENJAMIN**, second at heavyweight.

ON A ROLL: With their 20-0 record at the National Duals last weekend, the Golden Gophers have won 13 straight dual meets this season. In a streak going back to last season, the Golden Gophers have won 18 straight dual meets and 18 of their last 20. In fact, Minnesota has not lost a dual meet since Oklahoma State defeated Minnesota 26-10 last Jan. 31 in Stillwater, Okla.

HOLDING THEM SCORELESS: Minnesota's 49-0 victory over two-time NAIA national champion Missouri Valley College Saturday at the National Duals marked the team's fifth shutout of the season. Minnesota's other shutouts came against Mankato State (38-0), Truman State (57-0), Augustana (53-0) and San Francisco State (46-0). The Golden Gophers have lost only one match in three other duals this season (Fresno State 45-

WRESTLING

3, Nebraska 43-3, West Virginia 33-3).

PIN CITY: Through 13 dual meets this season, Minnesota's wrestlers have won 38 matches by pinning their opponents, including No. 7 Shelton Benjamin's dramatic fall in 2:16 over Iowa's No. 8 Wes Hand to give Minnesota its first National Duals title. Minnesota recorded a remarkable eight wins by fall in a 57-0 win over Truman State on Dec. 5, 1997. Last year through 13 duals, Minnesota had only recorded 18 match wins by pin. Minnesota did not record any wins by fall in last weekend's wins over No. 23 West Virginia and Michigan State, marking only the second and third times of the year that the team did not win at least one match by pin. The team's only other dual without a pin was the 20-15 win at Iowa State (1/4).

Junior **TIM HARTUNG** is the team leader with eight pins in dual meets. Senior **JASON DAVIDS** is second with six. Hartung is also the overall team leader with 15 pins overall, and Davids is second with 13.

Cliff Keen/NWCA National Duals Tournament January 17-18, 1998 -- Iowa City, Iowa

No. 2 Minnesota 49, Missouri Valley 0

118 - No. 15 Brett Lawrence (UM) pinned Chad Hopkins (MVC), 4:16
126 - Bart Golyer (UM) major dec. Beau Vest (MVC) 22-8
134 - No. 7 Troy Marr (UM) decisioned T. J. Slay (MVC) 7-0
142 - No. 1 Jason Davids (UM) pinned Mike Ridings (MVC), 1:50
150 - No. 1 Chad Kraft (UM) major dec. Aaron Elsmore (MVC) 16-5
158 - No. 8 Josh Holiday (UM) major dec. Marcus Mainz (MVC) 17-4
167 - No. 5 Zac Taylor (UM) pinned Jason Walls (MVC), 1:22
177 - No. 5 Brandon Eggum (UM) pinned Caleb Hickman (MVC), :58
190 - No. 2 Tim Hartung (UM) pinned Jervon Walton (MVC), 2:34
Hwt - No. 7 Shelton Benjamin (UM) tech. fall Livingston Merritt (MVC), 22-7

No. 2 Minnesota 33, No. 23 West Virginia 3

118 - No. 15 Brett Lawrence (UM) dec. Angelo Zegarelli (WVU) 9-8 (2OT)
126 - No. 7 Pat Connors (UM) dec. Bob Patensky (WVU) 6-5
134 - No. 7 Troy Marr (UM) dec. No. 12 Whitey Chlebove (WVU) 3-1 (OT)
142 - No. 1 Jason Davids (UM) dec. No. 7 Dorian Hager (WVU) 8-4
150 - No. 1 Chad Kraft (UM) dec. No. 3 Mike Mason (WVU) 6-4
158 - No. 13 Sam Kline (WVU) dec. No. 7 Josh Holiday (UM) 4-3
167 - No. 5 Zac Taylor (UM) won by default
177 - No. 5 Brandon Eggum (UM) dec. No. 11 Vertus Jones 8-3
190 - No. 2 Tim Hartung (UM) dec. Sean Hage (WVU) 7-2
Hwt - No. 7 Shelton Benjamin (UM) won by forfeit

No. 2 Minnesota 31, Michigan State 7

118 - No. 1 David Morgan (MSU) major dec. No. 15 Brett Lawrence (UM) 15-1
126 - No. 18 Pat McNamara (MSU) dec. No. 7 Pat Connors (UM) 5-0
134 - No. 7 Troy Marr (UM) dec. Issac Miller (MSU) 4-3
142 - No. 1 Jason Davids (UM) tech. fall Nick Curry (MSU) 20-3, 5:08
150 - No. 1 Chad Kraft (UM) tech. fall Cory Posey (MSU) 22-7, 7:00
158 - No. 7 Josh Holiday (UM) dec. Greg DeGrand (MSU) 9-5
167 - No. 5 Zac Taylor (UM) dec. William Hill (MSU) 9-4
177 - No. 5 Brandon Eggum (UM) major dec. James Brimm (MSU) 11-2
190 - No. 2 Tim Hartung (UM) major dec. Nick Muzashvili (MSU) 14-2
Hwt - No. 7 Shelton Benjamin (UM) major dec. Matt Lamb (MSU) 15-3

Sunday, Jan. 18, 1998

No. 2 Minnesota 18, No. 3 Iowa 17

118 - No. 20 Eric Juergens (IOWA) maj. dec. No. 15 Brett Lawrence (UM) 14-5
126 - No. 12 Doug Schwab (IOWA) dec. No. 7 Pat Connors (UM) 9-5
134 - No. 1 Mark Ironside (IOWA) maj. dec. No. 7 Troy Marr (UM) 20-7

142 - No. 1 Jason Davids (UM) dec. No. 4 Jeff McGinness (IOWA) 3-1 (OT)
150 - No. 1 Chad Kraft (UM) dec. No. 17 Kasey McGillis (IOWA) 8-3
158 - No. 7 Josh Holiday (UM) dec. Ben Uker (IOWA) 9-7
167 - No. 1 Joe Williams (IOWA) dec. No. 5 Zac Taylor (UM) 5-3
177 - No. 5 Brandon Eggum (UM) dec. Paul Jenn (IOWA) 7-3
190 - No. 3 Lee Fullhart (IOWA) dec. No. 2 Tim Hartung (UM) 7-6 (2OT)
Hwt - No. 7 Shelton Benjamin (UM) pinned No. 8 Wes Hand (IOWA), 2:

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

SPORTS NEWS

The Golden Gopher mascot is positioned behind the word "SPORTS" in the "SPORTS NEWS" title. The mascot is a stylized gopher wearing a dark sweater with white stripes on the sleeves and a white "M" on the chest. It is holding a large letter "S" in its right hand and has its left hand raised in a fist. The mascot is smiling and looking towards the viewer.

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

MEDIA ADVISORY

MEDIA ADVISORY

MEDIA ADVISORY

January 21, 1998

MINNESOTA WRESTLING TEAM AVAILABLE THURSDAY AFTERNOON

Head Wrestling Coach J Robinson and members of the No. 2 Golden Gopher wrestling team will be available to talk to members of the media at 2:30 p.m. Thursday afternoon in the wrestling room in the lower level of the Bierman Field Athletic Building. Practice begins at 3 p.m.

Wrestlers available will be senior Jason Davids (ranked No. 1 at 142), junior Chad Kraft (No. 1 at 150), junior Tim Hartung (No. 2 at 190), senior Zac Taylor (No. 5 at 167) and senior Shelton Benjamin (No. 7 at heavyweight).

The Golden Gophers, the No. 2 ranked team in the nation, take on the No. 3 Iowa Hawkeyes Friday night at 7 p.m. in Williams Arena. Friday's dual will be a rematch of Minnesota's thrilling, come-from-behind 18-17 win over Iowa last Sunday in the championship match of the National Wrestling Duals tournament in Iowa City.

Members of the media planning to attend Friday's dual meet with Iowa may also pick up their credentials and photo armbands Thursday. For more information, call Rhonda Lundin of the Men's Athletics Media Relations department at (612) 626-9599.

For those unable to attend, comments from the news conference can be heard on the Golden Gopher Hotline at (612) 625-7887 at approximately 3:30 p.m. Central Thursday.

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

January 22, 1998

GATES OPEN AT 5:30 P.M. FOR IOWA/MINNESOTA WRESTLING MATCH

In anticipation of a record-breaking crowd for Friday's wrestling dual meet between the University of Minnesota and the University of Iowa, the University of Minnesota has announced that the gates for Williams Arena will open at 5:30 p.m, ticket windows open at 5 p.m. The match between No. 2 Minnesota and No. 3 Iowa begins at 7 p.m.

As of Thursday evening, 5,500 reserved tickets had been sold for the meet. Ticket prices for the match are \$6 for adults and \$4 for students and senior citizens. Children under 6 are admitted free of charge.

The school attendance record for a dual match is 9,225 set on Feb. 3, 1980 when the Iowa State Cyclones defeated the Golden Gophers 19-18 at Williams Arena.

Other home University of Minnesota athletics events also on the schedule for Friday night are the men's hockey game against the University of Minnesota-Duluth Bulldogs at Mariucci Arena. Face-off is scheduled for 7:30 p.m. The women's basketball team will face the Penn State Nittany Lions at the Sports Pavilion. Tip-off is scheduled for 7 p.m.



SPORTS NEWS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 26, 1998

ABRAHAMSON NAMED WCHA DEFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE WEEK

Senior defenseman Brett Abrahamson has been named WCHA Defensive Player of the Week for his efforts in last weekend's series against the University of Minnesota-Duluth at Mariucci Arena. The Golden Gophers swept the Bulldogs, giving them wins in five of their last six and six of their last eight games.

Abrahamson, of Oakdale, Minn., assisted on a goal Friday before supplying two goals, including the game winner, in Saturday's 6-5 win. Abrahamson, who has scored points in four of the last five games, had a +6 plus/minus rating on the weekend including +4 in Saturday's game. The two-goal performance was a career first for the veteran blueliner. On the season, Abrahamson has three goals and five assists and is +9 in Golden Gopher wins.

Abrahamson is the first Golden Gopher to win player of the week honors since junior center Reggie Berg was named offensive player of the week on November 10.

Steve Reinprecht of Wisconsin was named Offensive Player of the Week for a hat trick in Friday's win over Colorado College, while goaltender Graham Melanson of the Badgers posted his first career shutout to earn Rookie of the Week honors.

The Golden Gophers (10-14-0, 6-10-0) will travel to Michigan Tech (11-12-2, 6-11-1) this weekend for a series against the Huskies. Friday's game begins at 6:05 p.m. (Central), with Saturday's Winter Carnival weekend rematch slated to faceoff at 4:05 p.m.



SPORTS NEWS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 26, 1998

HANKINSON NAMED A FINALIST FOR HUMANITARIAN AWARD

University of Minnesota senior co-captain Casey Hankinson has been named a finalist for the 1998 Humanitarian Award, an award given annually to college hockey's finest citizen. This marks the second consecutive season that Hankinson has been named one of five finalists for the award.

Hankinson has given a great deal of his time to helping build youth hockey in his hometown of Edina, Minn., and has volunteered his time to help a severely emotional and behaviorally disturbed child at a local elementary school. His efforts centered around teaching the youngster not only more about hockey, but also dealing with day-to-day life issues.

A year ago, Hankinson spent a great deal of time with Ben Peyton, a high school player from Edina, Minn., who was severely injured while playing hockey. Hankinson was named to the WCHA All-Academic squad in 1995-96, and is in his second season as a Golden Gopher captain. He currently has seven goals and nine assists for 16 total points this season and with his second assist in Saturday's 6-5 win over UMD scored his 100th career point. Hankinson has 47 goals and 53 assists in 137 career games.

The Humanitarian Award is in its third season, and strives to honor the accomplishments of personal character, scholarship, and the giving of oneself off the ice to the community. The award is meant to be seen as a true measure of a person's worth, not just as an athlete, but as someone who embodies those values that merit our recognition.

Other 1998 finalists for the Humanitarian Award are Tyler Harlton of Michigan State, Steve Noble of Notre Dame, Erik Raygor of Wisconsin, and Erin Schmalz of Cornell University's women's hockey team. The winner of the award will be announced sometime in mid-March.