

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

Hometown News

(For immediate release)

May 1, 1985

Minneapolis, Minn. -- "It was a roller coaster season for me. When things were going well, they went really well. When they went bad they were really bad." That is how Laurie Kaiser summed up her sophomore year on the University of Minnesota women's gymnastics team.

And, in a paraphrase of an old saying, as Laurie Kaiser goes, so go the Minnesota Gophers.

Kaiser started the year with three scores above 37.00 all-around in four meets; her best score last season was 36.95. She tied the school all-around record of 37.15 in a meet against the Japanese All-Star team, and tied the school mark in the balance beam. She already held the school records in the vault and floor exercise. That, however, is when the roller-coaster started going downhill.

In mid-January, she broke her thumb tobogganing and was out of the all-around picture for a month. Although she missed going all-around in only two meets, she faced a slow recovery with the Big Ten Championships looming on the horizon.

At that point, the roller coaster started back up, as she finished third on the balance beam at the Big Ten meet with scores of 8.85 in the qualifying round and 9.30 in the championship round. Her finish earned her all-Big Ten honors for the second year in a row. She also finished seventh all-around, with a 35.20 score.

more-----

Minnesota Women's Sports News, Kaiser, 2-2-2-2

The following week, in the Gophers' final meet of the season, she scored a 36.55 all-around, raising her average high enough to qualify individually for the NCAA Midwest Regional Championships. The Midwest is generally considered the toughest region in the country; the region champs, Utah, took the national title and two other teams from the region were among the ten teams to qualify for the national meet.

That broken foot continued to haunt the team, however, as Minnesota failed to qualify for post-season competition for the first time in six years -- mainly because they were without Kaiser's all-around scores for that month.

At the regional meet, Kaiser finished no lower than 11th in any of the four individual events, and placed 14th all-around (36.60). Two days after the regional meet, Kaiser got the good news that her all-around score was good enough to earn her one of the ten individual berths at the NCAA National Championships. Later that week, the roller coaster took its final downhill turn, when she broke her ankle in practice, ending her plans to compete at the national championships. "I was disappointed, to say the least," Kaiser commented. "I was just starting to come back strong from my thumb and I broke my foot."

Kaiser had an outstanding freshman season last year, earning all-Big Ten honors and winning two of the four individual events (the floor exercise and vault) at the Big Ten Championships. She also finished second on the balance beam and fifth all-around. She reset the Minnesota vault record three times last season, and her 18.95 two day score at the Big Ten Championships set a new conference record in that event.

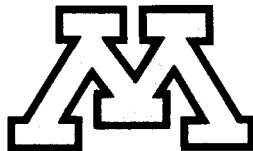
In 1983, Kaiser was named the top girls high school gymnast in the country, while competing at Armstrong High School. She was a high school All-American in all four events and the all-around and led Armstrong to a number three national ranking her senior season.

SEASON AND CAREER AVERAGES AND BESTS -- Laurie Kaiser

	VAULT	UNEVEN BARS	BEAM	FLOOR	ALL-AROUND
1983-84 Season Ave.	9.27	8.42	9.01	9.27	35.96
Season Best	9.55*	9.15	9.40	9.60*	36.95
1984-85 Season Ave.	8.96	8.73	9.11	9.04	35.97
Season Best	9.40	9.45*	9.45*	9.55	37.15*
Career	9.14	8.55	9.06	9.16	35.96

*Career Best

WOMEN'S INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
516 15TH AVENUE S.E.
MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA 55455



KAREN SMITH
SPORTS INFORMATION DIRECTOR
OFFICE: (612) 376-5259

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

Hometown News

(LATE START AGAIN THE STORY FOR BANDROWSKI)

(For immediate release)

April 15, 1985

(By Dean Woodbeck)

Minneapolis, Minn. -- It was an instant replay. Marie Bandrowski, a sophomore on the University of Minnesota gymnastics team, had seen this all before: an early season injury with a mid-season recovery just in time to prepare for the Big Ten Championships.

It happened last season and again this season, as the Milford native missed the first part of the campaign with an injured elbow, recuperating in time to help the Gophers down the home stretch.

This year, Bandrowski missed the first month of the season, then began competing regularly on the vault and balance beam. The Gophers needed her help on their weakest event, the beam, and she responded by compiling the second best seasonal average on the team (8.70).

Her best performance on the beam came against third rated Cal. State-Fullerton and eighth ranked UCLA. The Gophers, ranked 17th, lost to Fullerton, but upset UCLA. Bandrowski was the only team member to finish in the top three in an individual event, placing third on the beam with a career best 9.25.

more-----

Minnesota Women's Sports News, Bandrowski, 2-2-2-2

Minnesota ended the 1985 season with a 16-7 record and a third place finish at the Big Ten Championships, after placing second last year. For the first time in six seasons, Minnesota failed to qualify for post-season regional competition, mainly because a broken thumb kept their top performer, Laurie Kaiser, out of full competition for a month in the middle of the season. The top six teams in the region qualify for the regional, based on the average of their top five scores of the season. The Gophers finished eighth, although their average this season was better than that of last year.

Last year, Bandrowski finished eighth in the all-around competition at the Big Ten Championships and just missed qualifying for the individual finals in the vault, with a ninth place finish in the event.

Bandrowski began her gymnastics career with the Acronauts, a club sponsored through the Steven Whitlock School of Gymnastics in Bloomfield Hills. During her senior year in high school (1983), the team placed first in the Mid-State Conference Championships, with Bandrowski finishing third all-around. She also qualified for the regional and state meets and the Eastern Championships. In 1982, she was first all-around in the Mid-State Conference.

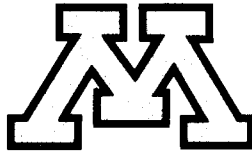
Bandrowski is working on a psychology major and sports psychology minor at the University of Minnesota and hopes to become a sports psychologist and work with athletes. She is the daughter of Michael and Marie Bandrowski of Milford.

SEASON AND CAREER AVERAGES AND BESTS -- Marie Bandrowski

	VAULT	UNEVEN BARS	BEAM	FLOOR	ALL-AROUND
1983-84 Season Ave.	8.82	8.24	8.72	8.70	34.33
Season Best	9.20*	8.70*	9.20	9.05*	35.55*
1984-85 Season Ave.	8.88	--	8.70	8.90	--
Season Best	9.15	--	9.25*	8.90	--
Career	8.85	8.24	8.71	8.70	34.33

*Career Best

WOMEN'S INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
516 15TH AVENUE S.E.
MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA 55455



KAREN SMITH
SPORTS INFORMATION DIRECTOR
OFFICE: (612) 376-5259

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

Hometown News

(A NEAR MISS FOR GYMNAST CANDACE DOELL)

(For immediate release)

April 15, 1985

(By Dean Woodbeck)

Minneapolis, Minn. -- It was a matter of four one-hundredths of a point -- that's two decimal places, .04. It could have been made up by scoring a 9.05 instead of 9.00 on the vault, or any other event.

But, four-hundredths of a point stood between University of Minnesota gymnast Candace Doell and a berth at the NCAA Midwest Regional Championships. Just that much separated her from a teammate who qualified for the regionals.

By all measures, other than regional qualifying, it was a successful sophomore season for the former stand-out from Feehan High. She finished ninth in the vault competition at the Big Ten Championships (with a 9.20 in qualifying and a 9.10 in the finals) and placed 12th all-around (34.75). Her 9.10 in the floor exercise left her just five-hundredths of a point from qualifying for the Big Ten finals in that event.

On an individual level, she set new career bests in two of the four events and tied the other two, as well as scoring a career high with a 36.60 all-around mark.

more-----

Minnesota Women's Sports News, Doell, 2-2-2-2

The statistics show why Minnesota needed Doell's all-around performance this year, after she missed part of last season with a wrist injury. Her season average on the uneven bars -- one of the events she missed during most of last season -- was 9.02, best on the team. She had the second highest vault average (9.10), and posted an 8.88 average on the floor exercise and an 8.65 on the balance beam. Her average of 35.49 made her the team's number three all-arounder.

Minnesota posted a 16-7 record this season and finished third at the Big Ten Championships, after finishing second in the conference last season. The team failed to qualify for post-season regional competition for the first time in six years, mainly because a broken thumb kept their top performer, Laurie Kaier, out of full competition for a month in the middle of the season. The top six teams in the region qualify for the regional championships, based on the average of their best five scores of the season. The Gophers finished eighth in a region that is the toughest in the country.

Six individuals in the region also qualify for the all-around competition, also based on the average of their five best scores of the year. Doell just missed, finishing seventh with a 36.06 average. The sixth place all-arounder, and final qualifier was teammate Wendy Dorsey, who averaged 36.10.

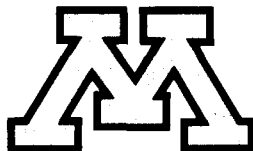
Doell was named Female Athlete of the Year in Saskatchewan in 1981 and 1982. She won the vault competition at the Western Canadian Gymnastics Championships three years in a row, from 1979 through 1981. She was an honor student in high school and trained at the Marian Gymnastics Centre. She is a dentistry major at Minnesota and is the daughter of Henry and Delina Doell of Saskatoon.

SEASON AND CAREER AVERAGES AND BESTS -- Candace Doe11

	VAULT	UNEVEN BARS	BEAM	FLOOR	ALL-AROUND
1983-84 Season Ave.	8.92	8.00	8.36	8.39	33.30
Season Best	9.30*	8.00	9.30*	8.50	33.30
1984-85 Season Ave.	9.10	9.02	8.65	8.88	35.49
Season Best	9.30*	9.20*	9.30*	9.20*	36.60*
Career	9.01	8.93	8.49	8.73	35.27

*Career Best

WOMEN'S INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
516 15TH AVENUE S.E.
MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA 55455



KAREN SMITH
SPORTS INFORMATION DIRECTOR
OFFICE: (612) 376-5259

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

Hometown News

(BEDNAR MAKES FIRST APPEARANCE IN BIG TEN FINALS)

(For immediate release)

April 15, 1985

(By Dean Woodbeck)

Minneapolis, Minn. -- By all measures, University of Minnesota sophomore Linda Bednar has just completed a fine gymnastics season. For starters, she qualified for the finals of the floor exercise at the Big Ten Championships; something only eight gymnasts in the conference manage to do.

Her Big Ten Championship appearance came in the floor exercise, and she finished fourth in the conference (scoring a 9.20 in both the qualifying and final rounds). Last season, the former Osseo High stand-out competed on the floor only twice. This year, she competed in 10 of the Gophers' 11 meets in that event and scored a new career best of 9.30.

Although her season average in the floor exercise was 8.73, she scored at least 9.00 in her last four appearances at the end of the season. She also did well on the vault, averaging 8.96. Bednar set new career bests in three of the four individual events and tied her career best in the fourth event. Her season averages in all four events exceeded her averages of last season.

more-----

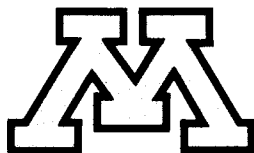
Minnesota Women's Sports News, Bednar, 2-2-2-2

The Gophers ended the season with a 16-7 record and a third place finish at the Big Ten Championships. Last year they placed second in the conference. For the first time in six seasons, Minnesota failed to qualify for post-season regional competition, mainly because a broken thumb kept their top performer, Laurie Kaiser, out of full competition for a month in the middle of the season. The top six teams in the region qualify for the regional, based on the average of their top five scores of the season. The Gophers finished eighth, although their average this season was better than that of last year.

Last year, Bednar was the top Gopher in the vault at the NCAA Midwest Regional, finishing 14th. During her high school career, she led Osseo to two consecutive Region 5AA titles. During her senior year (1983), she placed first in the region all-around and on the vault, floor exercise and uneven bars. She was the team MVP and an all-conference pick her last two seasons.

Bednar is a pre-med major at the University of Minnesota and is the daughter of Robert and Barbara Bednar of Maple Grove.

WOMEN'S INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
516 15TH AVENUE S.E.
MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA 55455



KAREN SMITH
SPORTS INFORMATION DIRECTOR
OFFICE: (612) 376-5259

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

Hometown News

(For immediate release)

April 15, 1985

(By Dean Woodbeck)

(DORSEY EARNS TRIP TO REGIONALS)

Minneapolis, Minn. -- University of Minnesota junior Wendy Dorsey qualified to compete individually at the NCAA Midwest Region Championships this season, but not without some nail biting anticipation.

It took the best performance of her three-year career, in the last meet of the season, but Dorsey showed the poise of a champion in scoring a 36.70 all-around and finishing sixth in the region individually -- the last qualifying spot for the regional. The top six teams in the region, along with the top six individuals, qualify for the post-season competition.

Normally, Minnesota gymnasts don't have to worry about qualifying individually. The team has earned a trip to the regional for the last five years. Competition has toughened, however, and despite scoring a higher qualifying score than last season, the Gophers finished eighth in the region and missed qualifying.

Dorsey was the only Gopher to qualify for the individual finals in two events at the Big Ten Championships this season, finishing fifth on the floor exercise (with scores of 9.15 in both the qualifying and finals) and sixth on the vault (9.20 in qualifying and 9.15 in the finals). She missed earning All-Big Ten honors for the first time in her career, after finishing third all-around in the conference the last two seasons. This year, she placed tenth all-around (34.95).

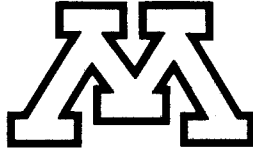
more-----

The Gophers ended the 1985 season with a 16-7 record and a third place finish at the Big Ten Championships. Last year they placed second in the conference. For the first time in six seasons, Minnesota failed to qualify for post-season regional competition, mainly because a broken thumb kept their number one gymnast, Laurie Kaiser, out of full competition for a month in the middle of the season. The top six teams in the region qualify for the regional, along with the top six individuals, based on the average of their top five scores of the season. The Gophers finished eighth, although their average this season was better than that of last year.

Along with the career high all-around mark, Dorsey scored a new personal best in the vault (9.35) and tied her best on the balance beam (9.25). She led the Gophers in two events this year, averaging 9.19 in the vault and 9.06 on the floor exercise. Over her three years, she has averaged 9.14 in the vault and 9.03 on the floor.

During her freshman season, Dorsey was the only gymnast in the Big Ten to place in the top six in four events. A shoulder injury kept her from going on to compete in the NCAA regional meet. As a high school senior, she finished second all-around at the Minnesota state meet, then placed seventh at the regional meet and ninth at national competition.

Dorsey is a speech communication major at the University of Minnesota and is the daughter of William and Ardy Dorsey of Edina.



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

Hometown News

(Special to Bloomington Sun Current)

April 2, 1985

(by Dean Woodbeck)

Minneapolis, Minn. -- The University of Minnesota women's gymnastics season was just two meets old and sophomore Shelly Brown, the former Jefferson High standout, had already exceeded her career bests in two of the four individual events. By the end of the season, she also had a new career mark in all-around competition.

Meanwhile, another Jefferson alum, Minnesota freshman Mary Jo Mastel, was getting her first taste of collegiate gymnastics competition. She responded by qualifying for the finals in the floor exercise competition at the Big Ten championships in mid-March, finishing in a tie for fifth place in the conference in that event.

Brown was one of the Gophers four regular all-arounders throughout the season, helping Minnesota to a 16-7 record and third place finish at the Big Ten championships. She averaged close to 9.00 in both the vault (8.98) and the floor exercise (8.99).

Her new career marks came in the vault (9.20) and uneven bars (9.25), while her all-around best of 36.35 came in a meet at Cal. State-Fullerton. The Fullerton meet featured two teams ranked in the top ten in the country. Despite the stiff competition, Brown finished sixth and was the top Gopher all-arounder for the meet. She has broken the 36.00 mark just one other time in her career, in a meet last season at San Diego State (36.20).

more-----

"Shelly is one of the hardest workers on the team," commented head coach Katalin Deli. "Next year we'll work on a new vault and strive for consistency in the new skills she learned this year. Her attitude is great and she is a strong all-rounder. It was too bad she fell just short of qualifying for the [NCAA] Regionals."

Mastel showed steady improvement early in the season, as coach Deli called on her for all-around duties in the first six meets of the year. "We had a couple of injuries early in the year, and called on Mary Jo to go all-around."

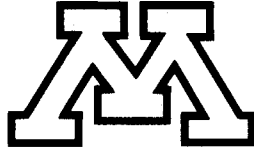
She improved her all-around score by two full points, from a 33.70 in her first collegiate meet to a 35.70 in the fourth meet of the season. Her strongest event was the floor exercise, an event in which she posted an 8.96 average for the season.

"While the scores may not show it, Mary Jo is strong on the bars and is very good on the beam," coach Deli says. "She had what I call some of the typical problems of a freshman, adjusting to school and a different level of competition. Next year, we'll be working with her on a new vault and improving her consistency on the bars and beam."

Mastel's top scores for the season include a 9.25 on the floor, 9.20 on the balance beam, a 9.05 on the uneven bars and an 8.85 on the vault.

As a team, Minnesota 's 16-7 record included victories over three nationally-ranked teams: Missouri, Stanford and #8 UCLA. The season had a disappointing end, however, as the Gophers finished third in the Big Ten and failed to qualify for post-season competition for the first time in several years. The team had been expected to place second at the conference meet.

Brown is the daughter of Bill and Karen Brown of Bloomington. Mastel is the daughter of Thomas and Kathy Mastel, also of Bloomington.



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

Hometown News

(HEALTHY DOELL KEY TO MINNESOTA'S EARLY SEASON SUCCESS)

Jan. 29, 1985

Special to the Saskatoon Star-Phoenix

(For use as desired)

(By Dean Woodbeck)

Minneapolis, Minn. -- Candace Doell's wrist has healed and the University of Minnesota women's gymnastics team couldn't be happier.

Doell, a sophomore at Minnesota, suffered a wrist injury part way through her freshman season, limiting her competition to only two of the four individual events -- the vault and balance beam. Head gymnastics coach Katalin Deli said Doell was "capable of being our number two all-arounder last season, with her skills and talent." If only...

This season, the former standout from E.D. Feehan High School is confirming her coach's assessment. The Minnesota Gophers' season is half over, and Doell has been the team's number two all-arounder in four of the five meets -- on a team that boasts two returning all-Big Ten performers. She has given the Gophers the depth they will need in all four events, if they are to challenge for the Big Ten championship and qualify for NCAA regional competition in March.

"Candi is doing much better than last year, and even much better than at the beginning of this year," Coach Deli commented. "She's much happier with herself, and that helps her perform even better. She is a super-talented gymnast."

more-----

Gopher Sports News, Doell, p. 2-2-2-2

Doell has cleared the 36.00 all-around barrier in three of five meets so far this season, scoring a personal best of 36.60, and winning the balance beam competition (9.30), against the Japanese University All-Star team. To score 36.00 all-around, a gymnast must average 9.00 on each of the four events.

The statistics show why Minnesota needs Doell's all-around performances. Her average on the uneven bars -- one of the events she missed during most of last season -- is the best on the team (9.04). On the floor exercise, the other event she missed last year, her best four scores average to 9.07. She also has a fine 9.04 average on the vault, and has scored above 9.00 on the balance beam in the last two meets.

All of this means more depth; on a team with one junior, five sophomores, and one freshman. Doell's consistent performances have helped Minnesota average a full four points better as a team than at this point last season.

Last year, the Gophers placed second in the Big Ten, with Doell finishing fourth individually in two events -- the vault and the balance beam. The team was one of only six in the region to qualify for the NCAA Midwest Regionals. So far this season, Minnesota has compiled a 5-0 record, including wins against Jacksonville State, the nation's number one Division II team, and Stanford, ranked 16th in Division I at the end of last season.

Doell, was named Female Athlete of the Year in Saskatchewan in 1981 and 1982. She won the vault competition at the Western Canadian Gymnastics Championships three years in a row, from 1979 through 1981. She was an honor student in high school and trained at the Marian Gymnastics Centre. She is a dentistry major at the University of Minnesota and is the daughter of Henry and Delina Doell of Saskatoon.

SEASON/CAREER AVERAGES AND BESTS -- Wendy Dorsey

	VAULT	UNEVEN BARS	BEAM	FLOOR	ALL-AROUND
1982-83 Season Ave.	9.14	8.49	8.88	8.98	35.41
Season Best	9.30	9.05	9.25*	9.20	36.30
1983-84 Season Ave.	9.08	8.90	8.65	9.05	35.71
Season Best	9.30	9.25*	9.05	9.55*	36.65
1984-85 Season Ave.	9.19	8.88	8.65	9.06	35.76
Season Best	9.35*	9.15	9.25*	9.15	36.70*
Career Average	9.14	8.76	8.72	9.03	35.64

*Career Best