

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA



# Minnesota 2000 Softball

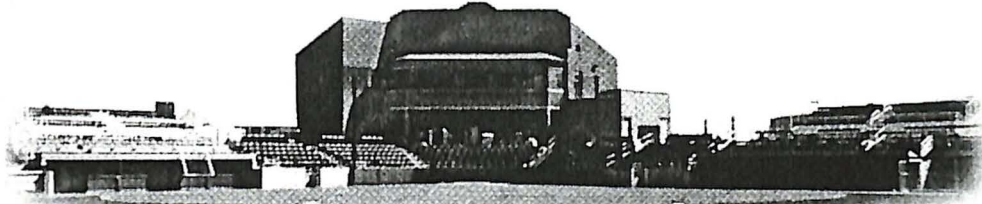


**Minnesota vs.  
Concordia**

*April 26, 2000, 6 p.m.*

Minnesota Softball Stadium

*Minnesota Softball Stadium*



*April 29, 2000*

*Dedication Ceremony — 12:15 p.m.  
Purdue vs. Minnesota (single game) — 1 p.m.*

*Come join us in the celebration  
of our new home!*



# Concordia vs. Minnesota — Wednesday, April 26, 6 p.m.



The University of Minnesota softball team steps out of Big Ten play to host Division II rival Concordia (St. Paul) tonight at the Minnesota Softball Stadium. The Gophers broke into the win column in conference play with road wins at Ohio State and Penn State, and still controls its own destiny to qualify for the 2000 Big Ten Tournament. The Gophers need three wins in their final eight games to secure a winning overall record for the fifth consecutive year.

**New Stadium Dedication Saturday** — The Minnesota Women's Athletics Department will dedicate its new softball stadium Saturday before the game against Purdue. Kids' activities will begin at 11 a.m. on the artificial turf field next to the stadium and the gates will open at 12 noon. Dedication ceremonies, featuring Sage and John Cowles, the lead donors of the stadium, and representatives of the University, the department and the Gopher softball team, will begin at 12:15 p.m. After a member of the Twin Cities Skydivers brings in the game ball, Purdue and Minnesota will play a single game at 1 p.m.

**Big Ten Update** — Iowa, Penn State, Michigan and Northwestern have either qualified or will qualify for the 2000 Big Ten Tournament. All four teams still have a chance to win the conference title and host the conference tournament, with Iowa holding the inside track. The other six teams are all still alive for the final two spots in the six-team field. Minnesota needs at least three wins in its four Big Ten games this weekend to keep realistic hopes of qualifying for its fifth Big Ten tournament in six years.

**Nygren's Numbers** — Sophomore Jordanne Nygren continues to lead the Gophers in driving in runs and most power categories. She leads the team with 11 doubles, 11 home runs, 39 runs batted in, 99 total bases and a .631 slugging percentage. She is second on the team with a .350 batting average, 55 hits and a .398 on-base percentage. She had the 100th hit of her career against Iowa on March 31. Nygren is hitting .327 in her 119-game career with 116 hits, 21 doubles, 25 home runs, 52 runs scored and 98 runs batted in. She is fourth on Minnesota's all-time runs batted in list.

**Hays Starts the Offense** — Sophomore Tammi Hays has developed into one of the top leadoff batters in the Big Ten Conference. Hays leads the Gophers with a .358 batting average, a .419 on-base percentage, 58 hits, 27 runs scored and 21 stolen bases. She had the 100th hit of her career April 1 against Northwestern. For her 119-game career, Hays is hitting .327 with 113 hits, 70 runs scored and 37 stolen bases. She has surpassed her first-year total of 16 stolen bases and 55 hits, and has increased her batting average from her first year (.299) to her second year (.358).

**Home Run Derby** — Minnesota set a Big Ten single-season record with 43 home runs in 1999, and has continued hitting the long ball with 22 home runs this season. Jordanne Nygren leads Minnesota for the second consecutive season, pounding 11 home runs in 51 games. She hit three in a doubleheader against Cleveland State on March 28. The homer in the first game was Nygren's second career grand slam, while the two in the nightcap gave her the fourth two-home run game of her career. Nygren's last home run of the season came against Northern Iowa, a solo shot to lead off the fourth inning of the first game. She is second on Minnesota's career list with 25 home runs. Nygren averages a home run every 4.8 games and every 14.2 at bats in her career. Junior Angel Braden hit two home runs on the Ohio State-Penn State road trip and has four this season, ranking second for the Gophers behind Nygren. Braden has eight career home runs.

**Recknor's Records** — Angie Recknor continues to be the workhorse of the pitching staff for Minnesota. She is 22-23 for the season and is five wins shy of the single-season record set by Vicki Swanson in 1978. Recknor has 193 strikeouts, which broke Jennifer Johnson's record of 186 strikeouts in 1996. She threw a perfect game against Akron on March 25, the second perfect game in school history and Minnesota's first no-hitter since 1992. To open the season, Recknor was named to the Metrodome Softball Classic all-tournament team after leading all pitchers in the tourney in innings pitched and strikeouts.

## Recknor's Single-Season Ranks in Gopher History

Statistic	Recknor	Rank
Games Pitched	47	2nd
Innings Pitched	284 1/3	1st
Wins	22	T4th
Complete Games	31	1st
Strikeouts	193	1st
Shutouts	9	T3rd

**About Concordia (St. Paul)** — The Golden Bears are in their first season of NCAA Division II softball, and have compiled a 24-6 record. Four of their six losses have been by one run in Northern Sun play. The likely pitchers are sophomore Paige Dopp (11-6, 1.07 ERA) and sophomore Joey Menart (12-0, 0.92 ERA). The Golden Bears boast seven hitters over .300, led by first-year infielder Penny Witzenburg (.393, 8 HR, 29 RBI) and first-year shortstop Lisa Harfield (.360, 5 HR, 29 RBI). Head coach Tom Rubbelke is in his third season with a 79-40 record.

**The Series** — Minnesota leads the series, 10-1. The games will be Minnesota's only games this season against a non-Division I opponent and Concordia's only games against a Division I opponent.

## 2000 Big Ten Standings — As of April 23, 2000

	Conference	Overall
1. Iowa	10-2 .833	34-10 .773
2. Michigan	11-4 .733	34-11-1 .750
3. Penn State	8-3 .727	29-12 .707
4. Northwestern	8-4 .667	20-19 .513
5. Purdue	4-6 .400	27-22 .551
6. Michigan State	5-8 .385	27-21 .563
7. Ohio State	4-7 .364	21-20 .512
8. Wisconsin	3-6 .333	26-20 .565
9. Indiana	3-9 .250	13-28 .317
10. Minnesota	2-9 .182	27-24 .529

Weekend Series — Michigan at Purdue; Michigan State at Indiana; Iowa at Wisconsin; Northwestern at Minnesota

## Recknor Makes Jump from High School to College with Ease

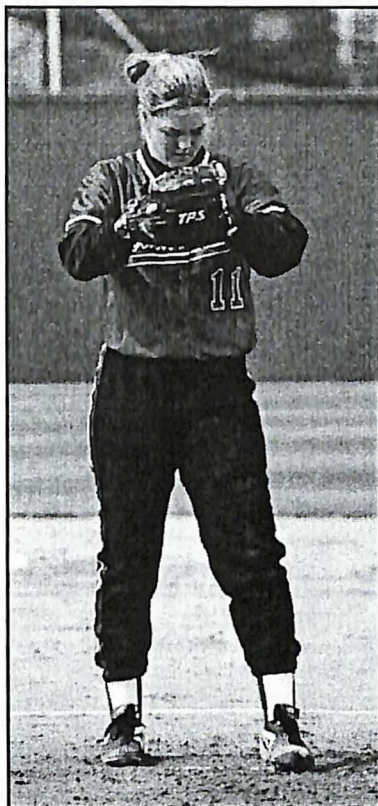
First-year pitcher Angie Recknor had a lot to balance on her shoulders entering the 2000 softball season at the University of Minnesota. The left-hander knew she had to make the leap from high school to college softball and carry the majority of the workload in the circle. The two-time Minnesota State Player of the Year has made the leap and is on the verge of setting several Minnesota single-season pitching records.

"It is a dream come true to be pitching at the University of Minnesota, and a lot of people have helped to put me in this position," said Recknor. "Softball is one of my true passions, and to do it here in front of family and friends as a Gopher is a real thrill."

Minnesota has just two true pitchers on the roster for the 2000 season, and Recknor knew she might have a tough year. The Minnesota coaching staff believes the mental adjustment from high school to college is more difficult than the physical adjustment of pitching from 43 feet (versus 40 feet in high school).

"She has become physically and mentally stronger during the season," said Minnesota co-head coach Lisa Bernstein. "You can't just get batters out with one pitch or one location. You might be able to get away with that for an inning or two, but you need a plan for a seven-inning game. Angie is making strides everyday in all aspects of her game."

Minnesota assistant coach Jen Bauer works primarily with the Golden Gopher pitchers and has experience in pitching at the Division I level. She believes the work Recknor is putting in will have a positive long-term effect. "There is definitely a



*Angie Recknor prepares to throw the first pitch in the history of the Minnesota Softball Stadium. She has set Gopher single-season records in innings, complete games and strikeouts.*

different mental approach, learning how to set up batters to get outs," said Bauer. "There is also a difference in conditioning to throw the extra distance. Angie is learning from every practice and every game, and it will pay off in the long run."

Recknor has not pitched in every game for Minnesota, but has come pretty close.

She has set new Minnesota single-season records with 284 1/3 innings pitched, 31 complete games and 193 strikeouts, setting the latter record Sunday at Penn State. Recknor is one appearance shy of the Minnesota record of 48 season appearances. Her 22 wins are three shy of the first-year record of 25 set by Steph Klaviter in 1996 and five short of the school record of 27 set by Vicki Swanson in 1978.

The highlight of the season for Recknor so far was her effort in the first game at Akron on March 25, 2000. The Hopkins High School graduate and Athena Award winner retired all 21 batters she faced in Minnesota's 2-0 victory. It was Minnesota's second perfect game in school history, and ironically, the other perfect game was also thrown by a Minnesota native southpaw (Sarah Maschka). The no-hitter was Minnesota's first since Brenda Bixby's nine-inning gem in 1992.

Recknor has not flinched at the responsibility of pitching so many innings for the Gophers. "I am going to take the job that is handed to me and do it to the best of my ability," said Recknor. "I want to meet and exceed the expectations that are out there."

Last year, Recknor was fortunate enough to meet her baseball idol, Derek Jeter of the New York Yankees, during the Bronx Bombers' trip into the Metrodome to play the Minnesota Twins. Jeter has had a wonderful start to his career, winning three world championships as the Yankees' starting shortstop. When she is done at the University of Minnesota, Angie Recknor would like to her mark on the Gopher softball program like Jeter has done with the Yankees.

### Gopher Spotlight Players



**#12 • Stacey Towne**  
First Year • Outfield  
Minnetonka, Minn.

A first-year player that has been exclusively used as a pinch-runner ... has appeared in 11 games, scoring two runs ... four-year letterwinner in softball at Minnetonka High School ... member of the 1999 state championship team ... three-time all-conference selection ... was the team's most valuable player as a senior and was an honorable mention all-state selection ... elementary education major with a minor in child psychology.



**#21 • Angela Gardner**  
First Year • DP  
Victoria, Minn.

A first-year player that has been exclusively used as a pinch-hitter ... has appeared in three games, reaching base twice ... singled against Youngstown State for her first collegiate hit ... three-year letterwinner in softball at Chaska High School ... led team in runs batted in for all three seasons ... all-conference honoree as a junior and as a senior ... named to the all-state academic team as a senior ... undecided on a major.

# Minnesota Golden Gophers

No.	Name	Pos.	B/T	Yr.	Hometown (High School/Major)
1	Morgan Holden	OF/2B	R/R	Jr.	Los Lunas, N.M. (La Cueva/Health & Wellness)
2	Veronica Roberts	OF	L/R	Fr.	San Diego, Calif. (Mt. Carmel/Undecided)
3	Dana Ballard	1B/P	R/R	Sr.	Oak Park, Ill. (Fenwick/Speech Communications)
4	Tammi Hays	OF	S/R	So.	Hastings, Minn. (Hastings/Kinesiology)
5	Allie Fisk	IF	R/R	Fr.	Orono, Minn. (Orono/Undecided)
6	Amy Hafemeyer	OF	L/R	Jr.	Kenyon, Minn. (Faribault/Mathematics)
9	Christine Lindberg	OF	R/R	So.	Barrington, Ill. (Barrington/Undecided)
10	Katie Orth	OF	R/R	So.	Rochester, Minn. (Mayo/History)
11	Angie Recknor	P/IF	L/L	Fr.	Minnetonka, Minn. (Hopkins/Pre-Law)
12	Stacy Towne	OF	R/R	Fr.	Minnetonka, Minn. (Minnetonka/Elem. Education)
13	Shelly Nichols	SS	R/R	Fr.	Austin, Tex. (Stephen F. Austin/Undecided)
14	Jordanne Nygren	2B	R/R	So.	Farmington, N.M. (Farmington/Undecided)
15	Angel Braden	3B/1B	R/R	Jr.	Chino, Calif. (St. Lucy's/Sports Studies)
17	Meagan Hautala	P	R/R	Fr.	Greendale, Wis. (Greendale/International Business)
21	Angela Gardner	DP	R/R	Fr.	Victoria, Minn. (Chaska/Undecided)
23	Meghan Smith	C	R/R	So.	Eden Prairie, Minn. (Eden Prairie/Pre-Med)
24	Michelle Bennett	1B/3B	R/R	Sr.	Hermantown, Minn. (Hermantown/Physical Therapy)

Co-Head Coaches: Lisa Bernstein, Julie Standerling  
Assistant Coach: Jen Bauer

Manager: Sarah Rustad  
Trainer: Natalie Sanderson

# Concordia Golden Bears

No.	Name	Pos.	B/T	Yr.	Hometown
4	Angie Piche'	C	R/R	Sr.	Waseca, Minn.
5	Lisa Harfield	SS	R/R	Fr.	St. Paul, Minn.
6	Chelsea Schultz	2B/OF	R/R	Jr.	Sauk Rapids, Minn.
9	Andrea Miller	IF/OF	R/R	Sr.	Cold Spring, Minn.
10	Joey Menart	P/IF	R/R	So.	Esko, Minn.
11	Sheila Hanson	C/OF	S/R	Jr.	Minnesota Lake, Minn.
12	Christine Lofboom	IF/OF	L/R	So.	Mahtomedi, Minn.
14	Paige Dopp	P	R/R	So.	Circle Pines, Minn.
21	Stephanie Wengelski	2B/OF	R/R	Jr.	Clintonville, Wis.
25	Penny Witzenburg	IF	R/R	Fr.	Packwood, Iowa
26	Michelle Olson	OF	R/R	Fr.	Woodbury, Minn.
31	Kate Wampole	IF/OF	R/R	Fr.	Chippewa Falls, Wis.
33	Anna Janke	C	R/R	Fr.	Esko, Minn.

Head Coach: Tom Rubbelke  
Assistant Coaches: Jim Rubbelke, Bob Bartel

Trainer: Kalief Palmer  
Manager: Jamie Boline

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA SOFTBALL  
Overall Statistics for Minnesota (as of Apr 24, 2000)  
(All games Sorted by Batting avg)

Record: 27-24 Home: 1-5 Away: 10-11 Neutral: 16-8 Big Ten: 2-9

Player	AVG	GP-GS	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	TB	SLG%	BB	HBP	SO	GDP	OB%	SF	SH	SB-ATT	PO	A	E	FLD%
Angela Gardner.....	.500	3-0	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	.500	1	0	0	0	.667	0	0	0-0	0	0	0	.000
Tammi Hays.....	.358	51-51	162	27	58	2	0	0	6	60	.370	17	0	35	1	.419	0	9	21-25	51	5	4	.933
Jordanne Nygren.....	.350	51-51	157	21	55	11	0	11	39	99	.631	13	0	30	0	.398	1	0	0-1	124	91	10	.956
Veronica Roberts....	.294	51-51	170	26	50	3	5	0	9	63	.371	1	0	15	0	.298	0	13	8-14	40	7	2	.959
Shelly Nichols.....	.237	51-51	135	8	32	3	0	2	11	41	.304	8	5	26	1	.302	1	10	1-2	60	108	16	.913
Angel Braden.....	.231	51-51	156	24	36	4	2	4	26	56	.359	16	1	31	0	.303	2	3	2-2	384	39	2	.995
Christine Lindberg..	.226	38-32	93	13	21	7	0	1	10	31	.333	8	0	35	0	.284	1	5	0-0	70	2	3	.960
Michelle Bennett....	.212	47-47	113	8	24	4	0	0	10	28	.248	15	1	13	0	.310	0	6	2-3	76	118	11	.946
Morgan Holden.....	.207	49-45	121	11	25	6	2	1	7	38	.314	4	0	27	0	.232	0	8	2-4	36	6	2	.955
Allie Fisk.....	.192	32-4	26	2	5	0	1	0	3	7	.269	0	1	10	0	.222	0	2	1-1	6	16	2	.917
Dana Ballard.....	.184	38-22	76	6	14	4	0	2	9	24	.316	6	1	15	1	.253	0	3	0-0	9	0	0	1.000
Katie Orth.....	.179	27-11	39	6	7	1	0	0	3	8	.205	2	0	10	0	.205	3	0	1-1	1	0	0	1.000
Meghan Smith.....	.164	41-39	73	3	12	0	0	1	3	15	.205	2	6	29	0	.247	0	12	0-0	176	32	9	.959
Amy Hafemeyer.....	.111	37-4	9	10	1	0	0	0	1	1	.111	0	0	3	0	.111	0	0	4-10	0	0	0	.000
Stacy Towne.....	.000	11-0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	0	0	0	0	.000	0	0	0-0	0	0	0	.000
Totals.....	.256	51-51	1332	167	341	45	10	22	137	472	.354	93	15	279	3	.310	8	71	42-63	1045	532	66	.960
Opponents.....	.262	51-51	1347	140	353	38	9	13	114	448	.333	65	15	215	5	.302	5	52	34-43	1061	472	66	.959

LOB - Team (293), Opp (301). DPs turned - Team (14), Opp (17). IBB - Team (7), Nygren 4, Ballard 2, Braden 1, Opp (6). Picked off - Hafemeyer 1, Nichols 1, Lindberg 1.

(All games Sorted by Earned run avg)

Player	ERA	W-L	APP	GS	CG	SHO/CBO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	2B	3B	HR	AB	B/Avg	WP	HBP	BK	SFA	SHA
Angie Recknor.....	1.94	22-23	47	44	31	9/2	0	284.1	281	110	79	44	193	28	6	9	1093	.257	18	13	0	2	44
Meagan Hautala.....	2.52	5-1	20	7	4	3/2	1	64.0	72	30	23	21	22	10	3	4	254	.283	4	2	0	3	8
Totals.....	2.05	27-24	51	51	35	14/2	1	348.1	353	140	102	65	215	38	9	13	1347	.262	22	15	0	5	52
Opponents.....	2.26	24-27	51	51	34	11/1	2	353.2	341	167	114	93	279	45	10	22	1332	.256	16	15	1	8	71

PB - Team (21), Smith 19, Lindberg 2, Opp (13). SBA/ATT - Recknor (31-40), Smith (27-36), Lindberg (7-7), Hautala (3-3).

**BIGTEN**  
CONFERENCE

I know what it's like to have good friends.

Friends who laugh when I trip and fall.

But then *help me get up.*

Who never get mad

Even if I drop the ball.

I don't know when they became my friends.

But that doesn't matter. Because we're a team.

And this is our game.

d r e E a I m G

[www.bigten.org](http://www.bigten.org)

# 2000 Gopher Softball

