



GOLDEN GOPHER MEN'S ATHLETICS

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March 24, 1997

Gopher Hotline

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

Monday-Tuesday, March 24-25:
Head basketball coach **Clem Haskins**

Wednesday, March 26:
Senior guard **Bobby Jackson**

Thursday-Friday, March 27-28:
Juniors **Eric Harris** and **Sam Jacobson**

Saturday-Sunday, March 29-30:
Senior **John Thomas** and
sophomores **Charles Thomas** and **Courtney James**

DON'T FORGET MARCH MADNESS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA...

The University of Minnesota will host these major championships in the month of March!

March 8-9 Big Ten Wrestling
 @ Williams Arena
March 22-23 Big Ten Gymnastics
 @ Sports Pavilion
March 27-29 NCAA Swimming and Diving
 @ U of M Aquatic Center

To order tickets, please call 1-800-U-Gopher or (612) 624-8080. To request media credentials call (612) 625-4090!

GET WIRED!

The U of M Men's Athletic Department is now on the Internet. The World Wide Web site contains press releases, statistics, rosters, schedules and much more. The Web pages can be accessed at: <http://gophersports.umn.edu>

This Week in Gopher Sports

Mon
Mar. 24

• Baseball vs. Chicago State Cougars (2)
H.H.H. Metrodome
KSGS-950 AM, 1 p.m.

Tues.
Mar. 25

• Baseball vs. Northern Iowa
H.H.H. Metrodome
KSGS-950 AM, 2 p.m.
• Tennis at Columbia
New York, N.Y., 2 p.m.

Wed.
Mar. 26

• Baseball vs. UW-Milwaukee Panthers
H.H.H. Metrodome
KSGS-950 AM, 3 p.m.
• Tennis at Princeton
Princeton, N.J., 2 p.m.

Thurs.
Mar. 27

• Baseball vs. UW-Milwaukee Panthers
H.H.H. Metrodome
KSGS-950 AM, 3 p.m.
• Swimming NCAA Championships
University Aquatic Center
Prelims Noon, Finals 7 p.m.

Fri.
Mar. 28

• Baseball vs. Purdue Boilermakers
H.H.H. Metrodome
KSGS-950 AM, 6:30 p.m.
• Swimming NCAA Championships
University Aquatic Center
Prelims Noon, Finals 7 p.m.
• Track at Florida Relays
Gainesville, Fla., All Day

Sat.
Mar. 29

• Swimming NCAA Championships
University Aquatic Center
Prelims Noon, Finals 7 p.m.
• Baseball vs. Purdue Boilermakers (2)
H.H.H. Metrodome
KSGS-950 AM, 2 p.m.
• Track at Florida Relays
Gainesville, Fla., All Day
• Golf at Dr. Pepper Tournament
Pottsboro, Texas, All Day
• Gymnastics at Illinois-Chicago Flame
Chicago, Ill., 2 p.m.
• Tennis at Penn State Nittany Lions
State College, Pa., 2 p.m.
• Basketball vs. Kentucky Wildcats
NCAA Final Four - Game 2
RCA Dome, Indianapolis, Ind.
CBS-TV, WCCO-AM 830
35 minutes after Game 1

Sun.
Mar. 30

• Swimming NCAA Championships
University Aquatic Center
Prelims Noon, Finals 7 p.m.
• Baseball vs. Purdue Boilermakers
H.H.H. Metrodome
KSGS-950 AM, 6:30 p.m.
• Track at Florida Relays
Gainesville, Fla., All Day
• Golf at Dr. Pepper Tournament
Pottsboro, Texas, All Day



WRESTLING

1996-97 WRESTLING SCHEDULE

DATE	MEET	PLACE	SCORE/TIME
All Unattached			
Nov. 16	Bison Open	Fargo, N.D.	All Day
Nov. 23	UNO Open	Omaha, Neb.	All Day
Nov. 29	Northern Open	Madison, Wis.	All Day
Official Team Schedule			
Nov. 22	North Dakota St.	Fargo, N.D.	W, 42-3
Dec. 6	Northwestern	Williams	W, 35-3
Dec. 15	Clarion Duals	Clarion, Pa.	1st Place
		- Ohio U	W, 39-4
		- Clarion	W, 34-9
		- Rider	W, 27-12
Dec. 17	S. Connecticut St.	New Haven, Conn.	W, 46-6
Jan. 4	Iowa State	Williams	L, 16-19
Jan. 7	Nebraska	Lincoln, Neb.	W, 29-12
Jan. 10	South Dakota St.	Williams	Cancelled
Jan. 18-19	National Duals	Lincoln, Neb.	3rd Place
		- Missouri Valley	W, 48-0
		- Penn State	W, 21 -10
		- Iowa	L, 23-12
		- Michigan State	W, 28-9
		- Penn State	W, 19-15
Jan. 24	Iowa	Iowa City, Iowa	L, 29-12
Jan. 31	Oklahoma State	Stillwater, Okla.	L, 26-10
Feb. 2	Wisconsin	Williams	W, 28-9
Feb. 9	Penn State	Pavilion	W, 28-7
Feb. 15	Michigan State	East Lansing, Mich.	W, 23-12
Feb. 16	Michigan	Ann Arbor, Mich.	W, 28-10
Feb. 23	Ohio State	Pavilion	W, 23-16
Mar. 8-9	Big Tens	Home	2nd
Mar. 20-22	NCAAs	Cedar Falls, Iowa	3rd/71 points

Bold indicates home meets

WRESTLERS PLACE THIRD AT NCAA

CHAMPIONSHIPS: Minnesota ended its 1997 season last week, finishing third at the NCAA Championships in Cedar Falls, Iowa, its highest place since 1941. The Golden Gophers finished third that year as well. Minnesota amassed 71 team points. It was the first time in school history that the Golden Gophers had all 10 wrestlers compete in the championships. Iowa won the team title with 170.00 points, while Oklahoma State finished second with 113.50 points. Minnesota edged fourth-place Iowa State by just one point.

Top Ten Final Team Scores

1. Iowa, 170.00; 2. Oklahoma State, 113.50; 3. Minnesota, 71.00; 4. Iowa State, 70.00; 5. Lock Haven, 54.00; 6. Edinboro, 45.00; 7. Oklahoma, 44.50; 8. Cal-Bak, 43.50; 9.

Illinois, 42.50; 10. Penn State, 40.00.

THE COACH: The Golden Gophers' J Robinson (Oklahoma State, 1969) is currently in his 11th year and has guided Minnesota to a 148-74-3 record and two runner-up Big Ten finishes. Robinson has coached 11 Big Ten champions and 28 NCAA All-Americans, including five this season. He is 16-4 in 1996-97.

THREE GOPHERS WRESTLE TO THIRD PLACE FINISHES AT NCAAs:

Junior **JASON DAVIDS** (Forest Lake, Minn.), sophomore **CHAD KRAFT** (Lakefield, Minn.) and sophomore **TIM HARTUNG** (Durand, Wis.) all finished third in their respective weight classes at the NCAA Championships.

Davidson decided Oklahoma State's Scott Reyna at 142 pounds, Kraft decided Oregon's Scott Norton at 150 pounds, and Tim Hartung decided Pittsburgh's Mark Bodo at 190 pounds.

BENJAMIN CAPTURES FIFTH PLACE AT NCAAs:

Junior heavyweight **SHELTON BENJAMIN** (Susanville, Calif.) decided North Carolina's Justin Harty to place fifth at the NCAA Championships.

CONNORS FINISHES EIGHTH AT NCAAs:

Sophomore **PAT CONNORS** (Longview, Wash.) placed eighth at 126 pounds at the NCAA Championships.

FIVE GOPHERS CAPTURE ALL-AMERICAN HONORS:

As a result of their top eight finishes, Davids, Kraft, Hartung, Benjamin and Connors garnered All-American honors. Davids and Kraft were All-Americans last year as well, while Hartung, Benjamin and Connors are first-time All-Americans.



TRACK AND FIELD

1997 TRACK & FIELD SCHEDULE

Indoor Track & Field			
DATE	MEET	PLACE	RESULT/TIME
Jan. 4	Early Bird Open	UM Fieldhouse	No team scores
Jan. 11	Northwest Open	UM Fieldhouse	No team scores
Jan. 18	Badger Track Classic	Madison, Wis.	No team scores
Jan. 25	Minnesota Invite	UM Fieldhouse	No team scores
	Manitoba, Drake, Marquette, Iowa		
Jan 31	Mercantile Bank Invite	Cedar Falls, Iowa	5th/37.25 pts.
Feb. 7-8	Iowa State Invitational	Ames, Iowa	No team scores
Feb. 14	Snowshoe Open	UM Fieldhouse	No team scores
Feb. 22-23	Big Ten Indoor Champ.	Iowa City, Iowa	3rd/83.33 pts.
Feb. 28	NCAA Qualifying Meet	Ames, Iowa	No team scores
Mar. 7-8	NCAA Indoor Champ.	Indianapolis, Ind.	T10th/16 pts.
Outdoor Track & Field			
Mar. 28-29	Raleigh Relays	Raleigh, N.C.	TBA
Apr. 4-5	Texas Relays	Austin, Texas	TBA
Apr. 5	Cyclone Open	Ames, Iowa	TBA
Apr. 11-12	Sea Ray Relays	Knoxville, Tenn.	TBA
Apr. 19	Hawkeye Invitational	Iowa City, Iowa	TBA
Apr. 25-26	Drake Relays	Des Moines, Iowa	TBA
May 3	TBA	Bierman Field	TBA
May 4	Jesse Owens	Columbus, Ohio	TBA
May 10	Minnesota Invitational	Bierman Field	9 a.m.
May 17	Minnesota Last Chance	Bierman Field	TBA
May 23-24	Big Ten Outdoor Champ.	Champaign, Ill.	TBA
June 4-7	NCAA Outdoor Champ.	Bloomington, Ind.	TBA

UP NEXT: Minnesota begins its outdoor track and field season this weekend at the Raleigh Relays in Raleigh, N.C. on March 28-29. The NCAA Indoor Championships on March 7-8 signaled the end of the 1997 indoor season for the Gophers.

TWO GOPHERS PLACE SECOND AT NCAA INDOORS: Minnesota high jumper **STAFFAN STRAND** (Fr., Upplands-Vasby, Sweden) and pole vaulter **TYE HARVEY** (Sr., Jamestown, Calif.) each earned second-place finishes in their event at the NCAA Indoor Championships in Indianapolis March 7-8.

Strand placed second with a jump of 7-5 (2.26m). The leap broke his own indoor school record. North Carolina's Eric Bishop won the event with a jump of 7-6 (2.29m).

Harvey finished second with a vault of 18-2 1/2 (5.55m). He also broke his own school record with the jump. Long Beach State's Jason Hinkin won the event with a vault of 18-6 1/2 (5.65m).

MINNESOTA FINISHES TENTH IN FINAL TEAM STANDINGS AT NCAA INDOORS:

Strand's and Harvey's performances gave the Gophers 16 points and tied them for tenth place with Tennessee and Louisiana State in the final team standings at the NCAA Indoor Championships in Indianapolis. Arkansas won the team title with 59 points.



GOLF

UP NEXT: The Golden Gophers will return to the links this weekend (March 29-30) when they will travel to Dallas, Texas, for the Dr. Pepper Invitational.

GOLFERS FINISH THIRD IN SAN DIEGO:

The University of Minnesota men's golf team finished third in the Ashworth Invitational in San Diego on Mar. 8-9. The Golden Gophers finished with a three-round total of 888, nine strokes behind Central Florida and just one stroke behind Hawaii.

Sophomores **BILL THOMPSON** (Wayzata, Minn.) and **ANDY KOMOR** (New Brighton, Minn.) were the top finishers for the Golden Gophers. Thompson and Komor tied for sixth with three-day totals of 221, which was five strokes over par. The Minnesota pair was 10 strokes off the lead of Central Florida's Jason Opal who won the invitational with a 211. Sophomore **MATT LEWIS** (Dubuque, Iowa) finished tied for 12th with a three-round total of 222.

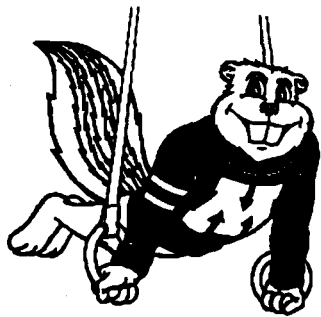
Minnesota Individual Scores: T6. Bill Thompson, Minn., 77-73-71-221. T6. Andy Komor, Minn., 75-72-74-221. T12. Matt Lewis, Minn., 73-74-75. T37. Jeff Barney, Minn., 74-74-80-228. T63. Matt Burgess, Minn., 77-80-76-233.

GOLFERS RANKED IN LATEST POLL: The University of Minnesota men's golf team is No. 17 in the latest Rolex Collegiate Rankings with 48.892 points. The Golden Gophers are the highest ranked Big Ten team in the rankings. The University of Nevada-Las Vegas is the top ranked team with 209.540 points.

The Golden Gophers have five top-five tournament finishes this season. Big Ten Freshman of the Year candidate **MARTIN LE MESURIER** (South Hampton, England) leads the team with a 73.1 average. Junior All-American **ROB KERR** (Pointe Claire, Quebec) is second with a 73.5 average.

ROLEX MEN'S TEAM RANKINGS

1. UNLV, 209.540; 2. Oklahoma State, 194.540; 3. TCU, 193.580; 4. Arizona, 167.920; 5. East Tennessee St., 147.200; 6. Wake Forest, 142.180; 7. North Carolina, 139.520; 8. Texas, 125.201; 9. Florida, 114.653; 10. Clemson, 105.608; 11. Arizona State, 103.850; 12. Southern California, 101.373; 13. Georgia Tech, 75.720; 14. Auburn, 72.227; 15. Virginia, 65.830; 16. Brigham Young, 56.840; 17. Minnesota, 48.892; 18. Tulsa, 48.721; 19. SMU, 74.868; 20. New Mexico, 44.920; 21. Mississippi State, 42.200; 22. LSU, 41.800; 23. Ohio State, 41.229; 24. Northwestern, 38.840; 25. Alabama, 37.017.



GYMNASTICS

1997 GYMNASTICS SCHEDULE

DATE	MEET	PLACE	SCORE/TIME
Jan. 11	Alumni Meet	Sports Pavilion	L/ 217.925
Jan. 18	Windy City Invite	Chicago, Ill.	7th/211.900
Jan. 31	Iowa	Iowa City, Iowa	L/223.875
Feb. 8	Michigan and Michigan State	Sports Pavilion	1st/222.100
Feb. 15	Winter Cup	Battle Creek, Mich.	No team scores
Feb. 22	New Mexico and Santa Barbara	Albuquerque, N.M.	2nd/222.40
Mar. 1	Ohio State	Sports Pavilion	L/228.5-228.725
Mar. 9	Nebraska	Lincoln, Neb.	L/225.15-230.175
Mar. 22-23	Big Ten Champ.	Sports Pavilion	1:00 p.m.
Mar. 29	Illinois-Chicago	Chicago, Ill.	2:00 p.m.
Apr. 5	NCAA Regionals	West Point, N.Y.	TBA
Apr. 17-19	NCAA Champ.	Iowa City, Iowa	TBA

Bold indicates home meets

UIC FLAMES UP NEXT: The No. 12 Golden Gophers will conclude the regular season with a dual meet at Illinois-Chicago on Saturday. The meet is set to begin at 2 p.m.

MINNESOTA FINISHES FOURTH AT BIG

TENS: The University of Minnesota men's gymnastics team finished fourth in the team competition in the Big Ten Men's Gymnastics Championships in the Sports Pavilion. The Golden Gophers finished with a team total of 227.45. Ohio State won the team competition with a team total of 230.825, followed by Iowa (230.7) and Penn State (228.00).

TICKNOR FINISHES 7TH IN ALL-AROUND:

Senior co-captain **FRANK TICKNOR** (Milwaukee, Wis.) was the highest Golden Gopher finisher in the all-around. He took seventh with a total of 56.755. Senior co-captain **HEATH WALL** (Sterling Heights, Mich.) finished 13th in the all-around, and freshman **LINDSEY FANG** (Allentown, Pa.) finished 15th. Blaine Wilson of Ohio State won the all-around competition with a total of 58.825.

INDIVIDUAL EVENTS: Several Golden Gophers qualified for the event finals on Sunday with their performances Saturday. On the still rings, Ticknor took seventh, and Wall tied for eighth. Fang finished eighth on the vault with a season-best 9.60. Wall and junior **GEORGE BEATTY** (Aberdeen, N.J.) both qualified on the parallel bar, tying for sixth. Sophomore **DAN BOOTS** (Pearland, Texas) tied for sixth on the horizontal bar.

In Sunday's event finals, Fang was the highest finisher, placing seventh on the vault with a score of 9.50.

On the still rings, Ticknor and Wall finished eighth and

ninth, respectively. Beatty finished ninth on the parallel bars. Wall also competed on the parallel bars and took 10th. Boots placed eighth on the horizontal bars.

GOLDEN GOPHERS RANKED 12TH: The University of Minnesota men's gymnastics team is ranked 12th by regional qualifying score in the NCAA National Rankings released this week. The Golden Gophers are also ranked sixth in the Eastern Region. All seven teams in the Big Ten are ranked in the nation's top 20 and six of seven appear in the Eastern Region's top 10.

NCAA Team National Rankings – March 17
(by regional qualifying average):

1. Ohio State; 2. Cal Berkeley; 3. Oklahoma; 4. Iowa; 5. Nebraska; 6. Penn State; 7. New Mexico; 8. Stanford, UMass; 10. Illinois; 11. Brigham Young; **12. Minnesota**; 13. Michigan State; 14. Illinois-Chicago; 15. Navy; 16. Temple; 17. Michigan; 18. Syracuse; 19. Army; 20. William and Mary

NCAA Eastern Region Team Rankings – March 17
(by regional qualifying average):

1. Ohio State; 2. Iowa; 3. Penn State; 4. UMass; 5. Illinois; **6. Minnesota**; 7. Michigan State; 8. Illinois-Chicago; 9. Navy; 10. Temple

WALL IS UM'S TOP RANKED GYMNAST: On the still rings, Heath Wall is tied for 13th in the nation and seventh in the Eastern Region in the rankings by NCAA three-score average. Senior co-captain **FRANK TICKNOR** (Milwaukee, Wis.) is ranked 10th in the region on the rings as well. **GEORGE BEATTY** (Jr., Aberdeen, N.J.) is tied for 18th in the nation and 10th in the region on the pommel horse.

Ticknor is the 14th-ranked all-arounder in the nation and the eighth-ranked gymnast in the Eastern Region.

ON THE HORIZON: The Golden Gophers will travel to the NCAA East Regional in West Point, N.Y., on April 5. The six top teams in the East Region will travel to the regional, and the top three teams will then travel to the NCAAs in Iowa City April 17-19. Last year, Minnesota barely missed qualifying for the East Regional as a team, but three Golden Gophers (Ryan Carns, Chris Harrington, Andrew Weaver) qualified individually. Harrington went onto the NCAA Championships on the vault but did not qualify for the individual finals.

MINNESOTA SEASON BESTS:

Team Score	228.500	vs. Ohio State 3/1/97
Floor Exercise	37.950	at Big Tens 3/22/97
Pommel Horse	38.550	vs. Ohio State 3/1/97
Still Rings	38.500	vs. Ohio State 3/1/97
Vault	37.950	at Big Tens 3/22/97
Parallel Bars	38.200	at NM/UCSB 2/22
Horizontal Bar	37.950	vs. Mich/MSU 2/8

Floor Exercise	9.600	Frank Ticknor (at NM/UCSB)
Pommel Horse	9.825	Jason Krob (at Iowa)
Still Rings	9.750	Heath Wall (at NM/UCSB, vs. OSU) Frank Ticknor (vs. Ohio State)

Vault	9.600	Frank Ticknor (vs. Ohio State), Lindsey Fang (Big Tens)
Parallel Bars	9.750	George Beatty (vs. Ohio State)
Horizontal Bar	9.650	Heath Wall (vs. Ohio State) Dan Boots (vs. Ohio State)
All-Around	57.500	Heath Wall (vs. Ohio State)

1997 BIG TEN MEN'S GYMNASTICS CHAMPIONSHIPS

March 22-23, 1997

Hosted by the University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minn.

Final Team Results:

1. Ohio State, 30.825
2. Iowa, 230.700
3. Penn State, 228.000
- 4. Minnesota, 227.450**
5. Illinois, 227.200
6. Michigan St., 227.000
7. Michigan, 222.225

All-Around

1. Blaine Wilson (OSU), 58.825
2. Drew Durbin (OSU), 57.85
3. Travis Romagnoli (ILL), 57.55
4. Yuval Ayalon (ILL), 57.40
5. Jose Haro (MICH), 57.325
6. Tim Elsner (OSU), 56.95
- 7. Frank Ticknor, 56.775**
- 13. Heath Wall, 56.05**
- 15. Lindsey Fang, 55.925**

Individual Events Finals

Floor Exercise: 1. Blaine Wilson (OSU), 9.80; 2. Drew Durbin (OSU), 9.60; 3. Jose Haro (MICH), 9.575

Pommel Horse: 1. Blaine Wilson (OSU), 9.875; 2. Mike Dutka (PSU), 9.825; 3. Mathew Weiss (PSU), 9.80

Still Rings: 1. Blaine Wilson (OSU), 9.90; 2. Victor Prisk (MSU), 9.875; 3. Danny Beigel (PSU), 9.85; **8. Heath Wall (MINN), 9.55; 9. Frank Ticknor (MINN), 9.50**

Vault: 1. Travis Romagnoli (ILL), 9.675; 2t. Jason Rogers (IOWA), 9.60; 2t. Jose Haro (MICH), 9.60; 2t. Drew Durbin (OSU), 9.60; **7. Lindsey Fang (MINN), 9.50**

Parallel Bars: 1. Drew Durbin (OSU) 9.90; 2. Blaine Wilson (OSU) 9.80; 3. Jose Haro (MICH), 9.75; **9. George Beatty (MINN), 9.30; 10. Heath Wall (MINN), 9.10**

Horizontal Bar: 1. Blaine Wilson (OSU), 9.875; 2. Tom Ellefson (PSU), 9.775; 3. Yuval Ayalon (ILL), 9.75; 8. Dan Boots (MINN), 8.50

Big Ten Co-Coaches of the Year: Peter Kormann (Ohio State) and Tom Dunn (Iowa)

Gymnast of the Year: Blaine Wilson (Ohio State)

Freshman of the Year: Mike Dutka (Penn State)



SWIMMING AND DIVING

1996-97 SWIMMING & DIVING SCHEDULE

DATE	MEET	RESULT/TIME
Oct. 19	Alumni Meet (Aquatic Center)	Non-Scored
Oct. 26	Intra-squad (Aquatic Center)	G-153.5, M-139.5
Nov. 1	Tar Heel Invitational (Chapel Hill, N.C.)	Non-Scored
Nov. 2	North Carolina (Chapel Hill, N.C.)	W 153-145
Nov. 16	Nebraska (Aquatic Center)	W 175-125
Nov. 22	Minnesota Invite (Aquatic Center)	1st/1,409
Dec. 20	Miami (Miami, Fla.)	W 66-47
Jan. 10	Kansas (Aquatic Center)	W 163-80
Jan. 11	Gold Country Invite (Aquatic Center)	1st/1,221
Jan. 18	Northwestern (Evanston, Ill.)	W 181.5-116.5
Jan. 25	Iowa (Aquatic Center)	W 210-89
Jan. 31	Quad Duals - Purdue & Wisconsin (AC)	2-0
Feb. 14	Minnesota Challenge (Aquatic Center)	NTS
Feb. 27-	Big Ten Championships	2nd
Mar. 1	(Bloomington, Ind)	
Mar. 6	Go-Pher-It Invitational (Aquatic Center)	NTS
Mar. 14	NCAA Diving - Zone Qualifying (AC)	NTS
Mar. 27	NCAA Championships (Aquatic Center)	Noon

NCAAS ON THE HORIZON: The ninth-ranked Minnesota men's swimming and diving team qualified 12 swimmers and one diver for the NCAA Championships this weekend March 27-29. It is the largest Golden Gopher contingent to ever qualify for the NCAAs. Preliminary sessions begin at noon, followed by finals at 7:00 pm each day in the University Aquatic Center.

Leading the way for Minnesota is Big Ten champ **MARTIN ZIELINSKI** (So., Bloomington, Minn.) in the 100 fly. Zielinski qualified with a time of 47.09, fourth-fastest in the nation. He will also swim a leg of the 200 medley relay, which qualified with the nation's sixth-fastest time of 1:28.07.

Minnesota's 12-swimmer contingent will be the fifth-largest at the meet, behind Auburn (17), California (13), Southern California (13) and Stanford (13). The Golden Gophers' 12 qualifiers is two more than Michigan, which edged Minnesota by just 17 points for the Big Ten title.

SWIMMING COACH DENNIS DALE: In his 12th season at the helm of the Golden Gopher program, Dennis Dale (Minnesota '67) has been the driving force behind Minnesota's resurgence on the national collegiate swimming and diving scene. Minnesota finished 12th at the 1996 NCAA Championships after placing ninth (1995), seventh (1994), 11th (1993) and sixth (1992). In addition, the Golden Gophers have placed among the top three in the Big Ten race each of the past nine seasons and captured the 1996 title.

Dale has coached 31 All-Big Ten performers the past four seasons, including nine this year - **TY BATHURST, JOHN CAHOY, MITCH HENKE, ERIEK HULSEMAN, LUIS LOPEZ, JONATHON MCLEOD, JEREMY RIENTS, MATT SCHLESSMAN, MARTIN ZIELINSKI.**

DIVING COACH KONGZHENG LI: Four-time Olympian Kongzheng Li in his first year coaching the Minnesota divers. Li earned a bronze medal in platform diving for his native China in the 1984 Olympic Games in Los Angeles.

Li comes to Minnesota following a stint as CEO of Team Orlando Diving, Inc., where he was named the 1996 Senior National Diving Coach of the Year. He has served as head coach at the University of Texas and George Washington.

MINNESOTA NCAA SWIMMING QUALIFIERS

200 free relay - 13. Minnesota (Ty Bathurst, Jeremy Rients, Matt Schlessman, Luis Lopez), 1:19.90

500 free - 25. Manolis Lentaris, 4:24.34; 30. Bill Bishop, 4:24.78

200 IM - 14. Jonathan McLeod, 1:47.93; 29. Yoav Mieri, 1:49.34

50 free - 22. Ty Bathurst, 20.06; 36. Matt Schlessman, 20.27; 39. Jeremy Rients, 20.30; 53. Luis Lopez, 20.47

400 medley relay - 10. Minnesota (Eriek Hulseman, Mitch Henke, Martin Zielinski, Matt Schlessman), 3:14.51

200 medley relay - 6. Minnesota (Eriek Hulseman, Mitch Henke, Martin Zielinski, Ty Bathurst), 1:28.07

400 IM - 10. Jonathan McLeod, 3:49.35; 23. Yoav Mieri, 3:53.06; 24. Bill Bishop, 3:53.81

100 fly - 4. Martin Zielinski, 47.09; 34. John Cahoy, 48.87
200 free - 13. Manolis Lentaris, 1:36.84; 34. Jeremy Rients, 1:38.05

100 breast - 17. Mitch Henke, 54.96; 28. Ty Bathurst, 55.79
100 back - 22. Martin Zielinski, 48.68; 30. Eriek Hulseman, 49.40

800 free relay - 9. Minnesota (Manolis Lentaris, John Cahoy, Matt Schlessman, Jonathan McLeod), 6:31.61

1650 free - 21. Bill Bishop, 15:19.56; 28. Manolis Lentaris, 15:34.30

100 free - 10. Matt Schlessman, 43.94; 16. Jeremy Rients, 44.09; 50. John Cahoy, 44.77; 52. Luis Lopez, 44.79; 61. Ty Bathurst, 44.93

200 breast - 23. Mitch Henke, 2:00.71
200 fly - 16. Martin Zielinski, 1:47.22; 25. Jonathan McLeod, 1:48.07

400 free relay - 10. Minnesota (Jeremy Rients, Matt Schlessman, John Cahoy, Luis Lopez), 2:56.81

400 free relay - 10. Minnesota (Jeremy Rients, Matt Schlessman, John Cahoy, Luis Lopez), 2:56.81

BJORKLUND QUALIFIES AT ZONE C COMPETITION:

Minnesota senior **ISAAC BJORKLUND** (New Brighton, Minn.) qualified for the NCAA Men's Swimming and Diving Championships by placing fourth in the three-meter springboard at the Zone C Diving competition at the Aquatic Center last week. Bjorklund scored 495.05 in the three-meter springboard competition to finish fourth. He also qualified for the NCAAs as a sophomore.



TENNIS

NETTERS TO TAKE TRIP THROUGH IVY

LEAGUE: The Golden Gophers continue their trip through the Ivy League with matches against Princeton Wednesday. The team's next Big Ten action comes on March 29 when the Golden Gophers travel to State College, Penn., to take on the Nittany Lions of Penn State.

GOLDEN GOPHERS DOWN YALE: The

University of Minnesota men's tennis team (5-6, 1-2) defeated Yale University 5-2 in a non-conference match on Sunday afternoon at the Gullman Center in New Haven, Connecticut. The win was the third in the last four matches for the Golden Gophers after starting the season by winning just two of their first seven contests.

Minnesota swept all three doubles matches for just the second time this season to win the doubles point for the seventh time in 1997. Sophomore **ADAM SELKIRK** (St. Joseph, Mo.) and freshman **MARTIN MICHAELOWSKI** (Ottawa, Ontario, Canada) won their singles matches in straight sets, while sophomores **TOM CHICOINE** (Neenah, Wis.) and **MARTIN KRISTOFFERSEN** (Portsgrunn, Norway) went to three sets to dispose of their opponents.

MINNESOTA 5, YALE 2

Singles

Jonathan Beardsley (Y) def. Ben Gabler (MN) 7-6, 7-5
Tom Chicoine (MN) def. Andrew Tang (Y) 6-2, 6-7, 6-1
Mark Warnken (Y) def. John Cheregi (MN) 6-4, 7-6
Adam Selkirk (MN) def. Cullen McMahan (Y) 6-4, 7-6
Martin Michaelowski (MN) def. David Beynet (Y) 6-4, 6-3
Martin Kristoffersen (MN) def. Reid Lerner (Y) 3-6, 6-3, 7-6

Doubles

Gabler/Selkirk (MN) def. Beardsley/Beynet (Y) 8-4
Chicoine/Kristoffersen (MN) def. Tang/Mayo (Y) 8-1
Michalowski/Robin Rutili (MN) def. McMahan/Lerner (Y) 8-2

COLUMBIA DROPS TENNIS TEAM: The

University of Minnesota men's tennis team (5-7, 1-2) was defeated by Columbia University 5-2 in a non-conference match on Tuesday afternoon at the Dodge Fitness Center in New York City. Columbia controlled the singles action, winning the number two through six matches to claim the victory.

Minnesota gained the doubles point with victories from the teams of **TOM CHICOINE/MARTIN KRISTOFFERSEN**

and **MARTIN MICHAELOWSKI/ROBIN RUTILI** (Palo Alto, Calif.) Senior **BEN GABLER** (Chambersburg, Pa.) broke a personal three-match losing skid with a straight set win at number one singles. The win was Gabler's 90th career singles triumph.

COLUMBIA 5, MINNESOTA 2

Singles

Ben Gabler (MN) def. Kevin Chang (C) 6-4, 6-4
Navroz Udwadia (C) def. Tom Chicoine (MN) 7-6 (5), 7-6 (4)
Salili Seshadria (C) def. John Cheregi (MN) 4-6, 6-4, 6-2
Matt Schroeder (C) def. Adam Selkirk (MN) 6-3, 6-2
Scott Watnik (C) def. Martin Michaelowski (MN) 6-3, 6-4
Ogidi Obi (C) def. Martin Kristoffersen (MN) 6-4, 6-1

Doubles

Udwadia/Seshadria (C) def. Gabler/Selkirk (MN) 8-3
Chicoine/Kristoffersen (MN) def. Watnik/Obi (C) 9-8
Michalowski/Robin Rutili (MN) def. Chang/Schneider (C) 8-5



SPORTS NEWS

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

NCAA FINAL FOUR GAME TIMES/ NEWS CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

**All times are CENTRAL
(Indianapolis is Eastern, so please add one hour for those making the trip)**

Saturday, March 29:

North Carolina vs. Arizona 4:42 p.m.
Minnesota vs. Kentucky 35 minutes following

Satellite coordinates for Saturday's postgame news conferences: SBS 6/14V ku; DL 12043.5

Monday, March 31:

Championship Game 8:16 p.m.

Satellite coordinates for Monday's postgame news conferences: SBS 6/15H; ku-band; DL 12068

Practice/News Conference Times for Friday, March 28:

<u>Team</u>	<u>Practice</u>	<u>News Conference*</u>
Arizona	11 a.m.-Noon	Noon-12:30 p.m.
Minnesota	Noon-1 p.m.	1-1:30 p.m.
North Carolina	1-2 p.m.	12:30-1 p.m.
Kentucky	2-3 p.m.	1:30-2 p.m.

Satellite coordinates for Friday's news conferences: SBS 6/15H; ku-band; DL 12068

News Conferences for Sunday, March 30


<u>Team</u>	<u>News Conference</u>
North Carolina-Arizona winner	11 a.m.-12:15 p.m.
Minnesota-Kentucky winner	12:30 p.m.-1:45 p.m.

Satellite coordinates for Sunday's news conferences: SBS 6/15H; ku-band; DL 12068

Media Headquarters Hotels: The media headquarters hotels are the Omni Severin (317) 634-6664 and the Crowne Plaza Union Station (317) 631-2221.

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

SPORTS NEWS



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

TO: Media Covering University of Minnesota Basketball

FROM: Marc Ryan, Director of Media Relations

RE: Final Four Coaches Teleconference

Just a reminder that a teleconference with all the Final Four coaches will take place beginning at **NOON WEDNESDAY** (Central time). The phone number for media to call is: (913) 661-0896.

The schedule is: Noon-12:30 p.m. (Central) - Dean Smith and Lute Olson
12:30-1 p.m. (Central) - Clem Haskins and Rick Pitino



GOLDEN GOPHER MEN'S ATHLETICS

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

March 31, 1997

This Week in Gopher Sports

Gopher Hotline

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

Monday, March 31:

To be determined

Tuesday, April 1:

Head baseball coach **John Anderson**

Wednesday, April 2:

Head football coach **Glen Mason**

Thursday, April 3:

Quarterback **Cory Sauter**

Friday, April 4:

Head gymnastics coach **Fred Roethlisberger**

Saturday-Sunday, April 5-6:

Head tennis coach **David Geatz**

Wed,
April 2

• Baseball

at Creighton Blue Jays
Creighton Sports Complex
KSGS-950 AM, 3 p.m.

Friday,
April 4

• Baseball

vs. Michigan Wolverines
Siebert Field
KSGS-950 AM, 3 p.m.

• Tennis

vs. Michigan State Spartans
98th Street Racquet Club, 6 p.m.

• Track

at Texas Relays
Austin, Texas, All Day

Saturday,
April 5

• Track

at Texas Relays
Austin, Texas, All Day

• Baseball

vs. Michigan Wolverines (2)
Siebert Field
KSGS-950 AM, 2 p.m.

• Gymnastics

at NCAA East Regional
West Point, N.Y., 7 p.m.

Sunday,
April 6

• Baseball

vs. Michigan Wolverines
Siebert Field
KSGS-950 AM, 1 p.m.

• Tennis

vs. Michigan Wolverines
98th Street Racquet Club, 9 a.m.

GET WIRED!

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

<http://gophersports.umn.edu>



GOLF

UP NEXT: The Golden Gophers take a week off before returning to the links April 11-12 when they will travel to Huntington, W.V., for the Marshal Invitational.

GOLFERS FINISH SIXTH AT DR. PEPPER INVITATIONAL: The University of Minnesota men's golf team finished sixth at the Dr. Pepper Invitational in Pottsboro, Texas. The Golden Gophers finished with a three-round total of 905, 42 strokes behind winner Southern Methodist, which finished an amazing one-under par and 27 strokes ahead of second-place finisher Northwestern.

Big Ten Freshman of the Year candidate **MARTIN LEMESURIER** (South Hampton, England) and sophomore **ANDY KOMOR** (New Brighton, Minn.) were the top finishers for the Golden Gophers with three-round totals of 226, good for a tie for 24th place. The Minnesota pair was 18 strokes off the lead of medalist Hank Kuehne who won the invitational with an eight-under par 208. Junior **ROB KERR** (Pointe Claire, Quebec) and sophomore **BILL THOMPSON** (Wayzata, Minn.) both tied for 32nd with a three-round total of 227. Senior **MARK HALVERSON** (Fargo, N.D.) finished tied for 50th (230), and sophomore **JEFF BARNEY** (Appleton, Minn.) tied for 54th (232).

Minnesota Individual Scores: T24. Martin LeMesurier, Minn., 74-72-80-226. T24. Andy Komor, Minn., 73-78-75-226. T32. Rob Kerr, Minn., 78-73-76-227. T32. Bill Thompson, Minn., 78-73-76-227. T50. Mark Halverson, Minn., 75-78-77-230. T54. Jeff Barney, Minn., 76-75-81-232.

GOLFERS RANKED IN LATEST POLL: The University of Minnesota men's golf team is No. 17 in the latest Rolex Collegiate Rankings with 48.892 points. The Golden Gophers are the highest ranked Big Ten team in the rankings. The University of Nevada-Las Vegas is the top ranked team with 209.540 points.

ROLEX MEN'S TEAM RANKINGS

1. UNLV, 209.540; 2. Oklahoma State, 194.540; 3. TCU, 193.580; 4. Arizona, 167.920; 5. East Tennessee St., 147.200; 6. Wake Forest, 142.180; 7. North Carolina, 139.520; 8. Texas, 125.201; 9. Florida, 114.653; 10. Clemson, 105.608; 11. Arizona State, 103.850; 12. Southern California, 101.373; 13. Georgia Tech, 75.720; 14. Auburn, 72.227; 15. Virginia, 65.830; 16. Brigham Young, 56.840; 17. Minnesota, 48.892; 18. Tulsa, 48.721; 19. SMU, 74.868; 20. New Mexico, 44.920; 21. Mississippi State, 42.200; 22. LSU, 41.800; 23. Ohio State, 41.229; 24. Northwestern, 38.840; 25. Alabama, 37.017.



TENNIS

NETTERS HOST MICHIGAN STATE, MICHIGAN: The Golden Gophers start off a four-match Big Ten home stand with matches against Michigan State and Michigan this weekend. The Golden Gophers face the Spartans on Friday, April 4 at the 98th Street Racquet Club at 6 p.m. Sunday they will take on the Wolverines at 9 a.m. at the same venue.

GOLDEN GOPHERS LOSE TO PENN STATE: The University of Minnesota men's tennis team (5-8, 1-3) narrowly lost to Big Ten foe Penn State Saturday morning in State College, Pa. Minnesota won all three doubles matches, but it was not enough as Penn State scored four points on four singles wins. Sophomore **MARTIN KRISTOFFERSEN** (Portsgrunn, Norway) and freshman **MARTIN MICHAELOWSKI** (Ottawa, Ontario, Canada) both picked up the only singles wins of the day for the Golden Gophers.

PENN STATE 4, MINNESOTA 3

Singles

Mike Carter (PSU) def. Ben Gabler (MN) 3-6, 7-6 (4), 6-4
Mike Griesser (PSU) def. Tom Chicoine (MN) 3-6, 6-1, 6-4
Colin Smeeton (PSU) def. Adam Selkirk (MN) 6-5, 6-4
Marc Dorfman (PSU) def. John Cheregi (MN) 5-7, 7-5, 7-6
Martin Michaelowski (MN) def. Eric Meditz (PS) 6-1, 1-6, 6-3
Martin Kristoffersen (MN) def. Tom Schneider (PSU) 6-1, 6-1

Doubles

Gabler/Selkirk (MN) def. Carter/Smeeton (PSU) 8-6
Chicoine/Kristoffersen (MN) def. Griesser/Lee Hecht (PS) 8-4
Michalowski/Robin Rutili (MN) def. Dorfman/Meditz (PS) 8-1

ON THE HORIZON: Minnesota hosts two more Big Ten opponents next week, as the team will take on the Northwestern Wildcats on April 11 and the Wisconsin Badgers on April 12. Both matches are set to begin at 6 p.m. at the 98th Street Racquet Club.



TRACK AND FIELD

1997 TRACK & FIELD SCHEDULE

Indoor Track & Field			
DATE	MEET	PLACE	RESULT/TIME
Jan. 4	Early Bird Open	UM Fieldhouse	No team scores
Jan. 11	Northwest Open	UM Fieldhouse	No team scores
Jan. 18	Badger Track Classic	Madison, Wis.	No team scores
Jan. 25	Minnesota Invite	UM Fieldhouse	No team scores
	Manitoba, Drake, Marquette, Iowa		
Jan 31	Mercantile Bank Invite	Cedar Falls, Iowa	5th/37.25 pts.
Feb. 7-8	Iowa State Invitational	Ames, Iowa	No team scores
Feb. 14	Snowshoe Open	UM Fieldhouse	No team scores
Feb. 22-23	Big Ten Indoor Champ.	Iowa City, Iowa	3rd/83.33 pts.
Feb. 28	NCAA Qualifying Meet	Ames, Iowa	No team scores
Mar. 7-8	NCAA Indoor Champ.	Indianapolis, Ind.	T10th/16 pts.
Outdoor Track & Field			
Mar. 28-29	Raleigh Relays	Raleigh, N.C.	No team scores
Apr. 4-5	Texas Relays	Austin, Texas	TBA
Apr. 5	Cyclone Open	Ames, Iowa	TBA
Apr. 11-12	Sea Ray Relays	Knoxville, Tenn.	TBA
Apr. 19	Hawkeye Invitational	Iowa City, Iowa	TBA
Apr. 25-26	Drake Relays	Des Moines, Iowa	TBA
May 3	TBA	Bierman Field	TBA
May 4	Jesse Owens	Columbus, Ohio	TBA
May 10	Minnesota Invitational	Bierman Field	9 a.m.
May 17	Minnesota Last Chance	Bierman Field	TBA
May 23-24	Big Ten Outdoor Champ.	Champaign, Ill.	TBA
June 4-7	NCAA Outdoor Champ.	Bloomington, Ind.	TBA

COMING UP: Minnesota continues its outdoor track and field season at the Texas Relays in Austin, Texas on April 4-5.

MINNESOTA POLE VAULTER SETS NEW MEET RECORD; PROVISIONALLY QUALIFIES FOR NCAAs: Minnesota sophomore pole vaulter **VESA RANTANEN** (Virrat, Finland) set a new meet record at the Raleigh Relays with a vault of 17-3 (5.26m) on March 28. The mark also provisionally qualifies him for the NCAA meet.

Teammate **TYE HARVEY** (Sr., Jamestown, Calif.) finished second to Rantanen in the event with a vault of 16-10 3/4 (5.15m).

SHOT PUTTER PLACES THIRD; PROVISIONALLY QUALIFIES FOR NCAAs: Minnesota junior **CHAD YENCHESKY** (DePere, Wis.) finished third in the shot put at the Raleigh Relays with a toss of 58-4 3/4 (17.80m) on March 29. The mark provisionally qualifies him for the NCAA meet.

Also placing in the top 10 for the Golden Gophers in the shot put were freshman **ADAM REED** (Milwaukee, Wis.) and sophomore **JEFF MARSH** (Seymour, Wis.). Reed finished sixth with a toss of 58-4 3/4 (16.91m), while Marsh placed eighth with a toss of 53-3 3/4 (16.25m).

TWO GOLDEN GOPHERS EARN TOP FIVE FINISHES IN DISCUS THROW: In addition to performing well in the pole vault and shot put, the Golden Gophers also fared well in the discus throw at the Raleigh Relays. Senior **JASON SCHLUETER** (New London, Wis.) placed third in the event with a throw of 177-7 (54.14m). Reed had a throw of 167-4 (51.00m), good for fifth place.

SPRINTER, HURDLER EARN SEVENTH-PLACE FINISHES: Earning seventh place finishes for Minnesota at the Raleigh Relays were **TIM VAN VOORHIS** (Sr., Apple Valley, Minn.) in the 100 meter dash (10.70) and **NILES DENEEN** (Jr., St. Paul, Minn.) in the 110 meter hurdles (14.27).

No team scores were kept at the meet.

GOLDEN GOPHER RESULTS FROM THE RALEIGH RELAYS:

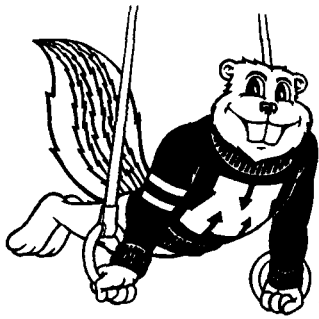
Pole Vault: 1. Vesa Rantanen, Minnesota, 17-3 (5.26m); 2. Tye Harvey, Minnesota, 16-10 3/4 (5.15m).

Discus Throw: 3. Jason Schlueter, Minnesota, 177-7 (54.14m); 5. Adam Reed, Minnesota, 167-4 (51.00m).

Shot Put: 3. Chad Yenchesky, Minnesota, 58-4 3/4 (17.80m)

1997 MINNESOTA PROVISIONAL OUTDOOR QUALIFIERS:

Athlete	Event	Score	Meet
Vesa Rantanen	Pole Vault	17-3 (5.26)	3/28-29
Chad Yenchesky	Shot Put	58-4 3/4 (17.8)	3/28-29



GYMNASTICS

1997 GYMNASTICS SCHEDULE

DATE	MEET	PLACE	SCORE/TIME
Jan. 11	Alumni Meet (ex)	Sports Pavilion	L / 217.925
Jan. 18	Windy City Invite	Chicago, Ill.	7th/211.900
Jan. 31	Iowa	Iowa City, Iowa	L/223.875
Feb. 8	Michigan and Michigan State	Sports Pavilion	W/222.100
Feb. 15	Winter Cup	Battle Creek, Mich.	No team scores
Feb. 22	New Mexico and Santa Barbara	Albuquerque, N.M.	2nd/222.40
Mar. 1	Ohio State	Sports Pavilion	L/228.5-228.725
Mar. 9	Nebraska	Lincoln, Neb.	L/225.15-230.175
Mar. 22-23	Big Ten Champ.	Sports Pavilion	4th/227.45
Mar. 29	Illinois-Chicago	Chicago, Ill.	L/226.05-227.750
Apr. 5	NCAA Regional	West Point, N.Y.	7 p.m.
Apr. 17-19	NCAA Champ.	Iowa City, Iowa	7 p.m.

Bold indicates home meets

EAST REGIONAL UP NEXT: The No. 7 Golden Gophers will travel to the NCAA East Regional in West Point, N.Y., on April 5. The meet, which features the top six teams in the East Region, is set to begin at 7 p.m.

The Big Ten dominates the East Region field with five of the six teams from the league qualifying for the meet (Ohio State, Iowa, Illinois, Minnesota and Penn State). Illinois-Chicago is the only non-Big Ten team that qualified for the East Regionals. Minnesota is 0-3 in dual meet action against teams in the field this season.

MINNESOTA LOSES TO ILLINOIS-CHICAGO: The University of Minnesota men's gymnastics team finished the regular season with a loss to No. 8 Illinois-Chicago last Saturday in a dual meet in Chicago. The Flames defeated the Golden Gophers by the score of 227.750-226.050.

WALL IS TOP FINISHER IN ALL-AROUND: Senior co-captain **HEATH WALL** (Sterling Heights, Mich.) was the top finisher in the all-around, taking second with 56.10 total points. Freshman **LINDSEY FANG** (Allentown, Pa.) finished third (55.70).

TICKNOR WINS TWO EVENT TITLES: Senior co-captain **FRANK TICKNOR** (Milwaukee, Wis.) won two events to lead the Golden Gophers. He and Wall shared the title on the still rings with scores of 9.70. Ticknor also won the vault competition for the first time all season, tying his season-high score of 9.60. Sophomore **JASON KROB** (St. Charles, Mo.) finished second on the pommel horse. Fang and Wall also tied for third on the horizontal bar.

GOLDEN GOPHERS RANKED 12TH: The University of Minnesota men's gymnastics team moved up to 7th by regional qualifying score in the NCAA National Rankings released this week. This is the team's highest ranking of the season, surpassing the No. 8 ranking the team held last week and in the preseason coaches' poll. The Golden Gophers are also ranked fourth in the Eastern Region. All seven teams in the Big Ten are ranked in the nation's top 20 and in the East Region's top 10.

NCAA Team National Rankings – March 31
(by regional qualifying average): 1. Ohio State; 2. Cal Berkeley; 3. Iowa; 4. Oklahoma; 5. Nebraska; 6. Penn State; 7. **Minnesota**; 8. Illinois; 10. New Mexico; 11. Michigan State; 12t. UMass, Stanford; 14. Brigham Young; 15. Temple; 16. Michigan; 17. Navy; 18. Syracuse; 19. William and Mary; 20. Army

NCAA Eastern Region Team Rankings – March 31
(by regional qualifying average): 1. Ohio State; 2. Iowa; 3. Penn State; 4. **Minnesota**; 5. Illinois; 6. Illinois-Chicago; 7. Michigan State; 8. UMass; 9. Temple; 10. Michigan

WALL IS UM'S TOP RANKED GYMNAST: On the still rings, Heath Wall is tied for 14th in the nation and ninth in the Eastern Region in the rankings by NCAA three-score average. On the pommel horse, sophomore **JASON KROB** (St. Charles, Mo.) is tied for 15th in the nation, 8th in the region. Senior co-captain **FRANK TICKNOR** (Milwaukee, Wis.) is ranked 10th in the region on the rings as well. **GEORGE BEATTY** (Jr., Aberdeen, N.J.) is tied for 20th in the nation and 12th in the region on the pommel horse.

Ticknor is the 14th-ranked all-arounder in the nation and the eighth-ranked gymnast in the Eastern Region. Wall is the 15th-ranked all-arounder in the nation and 9th in the region.

ON THE HORIZON: The top three teams from the East Region will travel to the NCAA Championships in Iowa City April 17-19.

MINNESOTA SEASON BESTS:

Team Score	228.500	vs. Ohio State 3/1/97
Floor Exercise	37.950	at Big Tens 3/22/97
Pommel Horse	38.550	vs. Ohio State 3/1/97
Still Rings	38.500	vs. Ohio State 3/1/97
Vault	37.950	twice (at Big Tens, vs. UIC)
Parallel Bars	38.200	at NM/UCSB 2/22
Horizontal Bar	37.950	vs. Mich/MSU 2/8
Floor Exercise	9.600	Frank Ticknor (at NM/UCSB)
Pommel Horse	9.825	Jason Krob (at Iowa)
Still Rings	9.750	Heath Wall (at NM/UCSB, vs. OSU)
		Frank Ticknor (vs. Ohio State)
Vault	9.600	Frank Ticknor (three times),
		Lindsey Fang (at Big Tens)
Parallel Bars	9.750	George Beatty (vs. Ohio State)
Horizontal Bar	9.650	Heath Wall (vs. Ohio State)
		Dan Boots (vs. Ohio State)
All-Around	57.500	Heath Wall (vs. Ohio State)

AT ILLINOIS-CHICAGO WITH TEMPLE

Team Scores

UIC - 227.750, Minnesota - 226.050, Temple - 223.200
All-Around: 1. Shannon Welker (UIC) 56.150; 2. Heath Wall (MN) 56.100; 3. Lindsey Fang (MN) 55.700

Floor Exercise: 1. Shannon Welker (UIC) 9.850; 2. Kenny Sykes (TEM) 9.650; 3t. Carey Reddick (UIC) and Aaron Vexler (TEM) 9.550

Pommel Horse: 1. Greg Gabel (UIC) 9.750; 2. Jason Krob (MN) 9.650; 3. Jody Liebler (UIC) 9.600

Still Rings: 1t. Frank Ticknor (MN) and Heath Wall (MN) 9.700; 3. Jody Liebler (UIC) 9.550

Vault: 1t. Frank Ticknor (MN) and Darin Gerlach (TEM) 9.600; 3t. Aaron Vexler (TEM) and Jody Liebler (UIC) 9.550

Parallel Bars: 1t. Sean Grosvenor (UIC), Greg Gabel (UIC) and Kenny Sykes (TEM) 9.750

Horizontal Bar: 1. Sean Grosvenor (UIC) 9.750; 2. Carey Reddick (UIC) 9.650; 3t. Lindsey Fang (MN) and Heath Wall (MN) 9.500



SWIMMING AND DIVING

1996-97 SWIMMING & DIVING SCHEDULE

DATE	MEET	RESULT/TIME
Oct. 19	Alumni Meet (Aquatic Center)	Non-Scored
Oct. 26	Intra-squad (Aquatic Center)	G-153.5, M-139.5
Nov. 1	Tar Heel Invitational (Chapel Hill, N.C.)	Non-Scored
Nov. 2	North Carolina (Chapel Hill, N.C.)	W 153-145
Nov. 16	Nebraska (Aquatic Center)	W 175-125
Nov. 22	Minnesota Invite (Aquatic Center)	1st/1,409
Dec. 20	Miami (Miami, Fla.)	W 66-47
Jan. 10	Kansas (Aquatic Center)	W 163-80
Jan. 11	Gold Country Invite (Aquatic Center)	1st/1,221
Jan. 18	Northwestern (Evanston, Ill.)	W 181.5-116.5
Jan. 25	Iowa (Aquatic Center)	W 210-89
Jan. 31	Quad Duals - Purdue & Wisconsin (AC)	2-0
Feb. 14	Minnesota Challenge (Aquatic Center)	NTS
Feb. 27-	Big Ten Championships	2nd
Mar. 1	(Bloomington, Ind)	
Mar. 6	Go-Pher-It Invitational (Aquatic Center)	NTS
Mar. 14	NCAA Diving - Zone Qualifying (AC)	NTS
Mar. 27	NCAA Championships (Aquatic Center)	Noon

ZIELINSKI, BISHOP SHINE AT NCAAS;

GOLDEN GOPHERS PLACE 12TH: The future of the Minnesota Men's Swimming and Diving team looks bright as two underclassman stepped into the spotlight at the 74th NCAA Championships.

Sophomore **MARTIN ZIELINSKI** (Bloomington, Minn.) set a school record in the 100 fly, clocking a 47.00 to place fourth. It is the highest finish by a Minnesota swimmer in that event ever at the NCAAs. His mark bettered the old school mark by .09 seconds, a record he established while winning the Big Ten Championships this year.

Zielinski also swam on Minnesota's 200 and 400 medley relay teams which earned honorable mention All-America status.

Freshman **BILL BISHOP** (Barrington, Ill.) also set two school records en route to an eighth-place finish in the 1650 freestyle. Bishop clocked a 15:10.55 to eclipse the old school mark, held by Scott Hart, by more than two seconds (15:12.97). He also bettered the school 1000 freestyle mark by hitting the wall in 9:09.58, edging Bernie Zeruhn's mark of 9:10.52 by nearly a second.

Bishop also set a personal best in the 500 free, finishing 10th in 4:22.96. Bishop entered the event with the 30th best seed time.

The Golden Gophers placed in a tie for 12th as a team with 109 points. It was the second straight year Minnesota has placed 12th. Auburn won its first team title in commanding fashion, scoring 496.5 points to better Stanford which placed second with 340 points.

Minnesota also got an All-American performance from the

members of its 200 medley relay team, which established a school mark by finishing in 1:27.17. The previous Golden Gopher mark was 1:28.12 set in 1994.

Members of the 200 medley team included **ERIEK HULSEMAN** (Edina, Minn.), **TY BATHURST** (Albuquerque, N.M.), **MATT SCHLESSMAN** (Avon, Ohio), and Zielinski.

ALL FIVE GOLDEN GOPHER RELAYS

PLACE: Led by the fifth-place finish in the 200 medley, all five of the Minnesota relays scored points during the meet. The Golden Gophers placed 10th in the 800 free relay, 11th in the 400 medley relay and 12th in the 200 and 400 free relays.

Senior **MATT SCHLESSMAN** (Avon, Ohio) swam on all five Minnesota relays, giving him one All-America and four Honorable Mention All-America honors. He graduates with a total of 12 All-American performances, all on relays.

MIERI PLACES IN THE 200 FLY: Another Minnesota freshman, **YOAV MIERI** (Jerusalem, Israel), scored for the Golden Gophers, clocking a 1:47.88 to place 15th. He entered the meet with the 19th best seed time.

LENTARIS WITHDRAWS FROM NCAAs: Junior **MANOLIS LENTARIS** (Crete, Greece) was forced to withdraw from the NCAA Championships last week with a bout of the flu. Lentaris, a two-time NCAA All-American (200 and 500 free) as a freshman, had been unable to train since finishing the Big Ten Championships March 1.

It is the second straight year that Lentaris has qualified for the NCAAs but been unable to compete. Last season he suffered a non-swimming injury to his ankle following the Big Ten Championships.

QUOTING COACH DALE: Head Coach **DENNIS DALE** (Minnesota '67) completes his 12th season at the helm of the Golden Gopher program. He has now led the team to a top 12 NCAA finish in each of the last six seasons.

"I was aware that without Manolis it would be a real challenge for us to achieve our season-long goal of placing in the top 10. I didn't want to verbalize that to the team, though. Our guys really responded, and I am very happy with our swims.

"We depend on balance as a team and that shows in the strength of our relays. Depth is really a factor for us.

"Our young swimmers really came through with some big performances. They did a great job."

1997 NCAA SWIMMING & DIVING CHAMPIONSHIPS at Minneapolis, Minn. March 27-29, 1997

Team Scoring: 1. Auburn, 496.5; 2. Stanford, 340; 3. Georgia, 297; 4. Texas, 286; 5. Tennessee, 235.5; 6. Southern California, 235; 7. Michigan, 209; 8. Miami (Fla.), 197; 9. Florida State, 160; 10. SMU, 157; 11. Arizona State, 113; 12T. Minnesota, 109; 12T. Nebraska, 109; 14. Louisiana State, 103; 15. California, 95; 16. Arizona, 84; 17. Florida, 80; 18. Harvard, 75.5; 19. Purdue, 57.5; 20T. Indiana, 55; 20T. Virginia, 55; 22. North Carolina, 45; 23T. Alabama, 40; 23T. Texas A&M, 40; 25. Ohio State, 35; 26. Kentucky, 34; 27. Kansas, 30; 27T.

Villanova, 30; 29. Syracuse, 28; 30. UC Santa Barbara, 26.5; 31. Pittsburgh, 25; 32. Brigham Young, 21.5; 33. Eastern Michigan, 14; 34. Toledo, 12; 35T. Iowa State, 11; 35T. Florida Atlantic, 11; 37. N.C. State, 8; 38. Northwestern, 6; 39. Hawaii, 5; 40. UNLV, 4; 41. Iowa, 3; 42T. New Mexico, 1; 42T. Texas Christian, 1

200 free relay - 1. Auburn (Hawke, Busbee, Ciarla, Shackell), 1:17.54; 12. Minnesota (Bathurst, Rients, Schlessman, Lopez), 1:20.18

500 free - 1. John Piersma, Michigan, 4:15.79; 10. Bill Bishop, Minnesota, 4:22.96

200 IM - 1. Kris Babylon, Georgia, 1:45.19; 27. Jonathan McLeod, Minnesota, 1:49.97; 32. Yoav Mieri, Minnesota, 1:50.24

50 free - 1. Brett Hawke, Auburn, 19.19; 31. Matt Schlessman, Minnesota, 20.25; 32. Jeremy Rients, Minnesota, 20.27; 34T. Ty Bathurst, Minnesota, 20.30; 49. Luis Lopez, Minnesota, 20.88; Note - Neil Walker, Texas, set NCAA and Pool Record with a 19.08 in prelims

1-meter springboard - 1. Rio Ramirez, Miami (Fla.), 610.05; 20. Isaac Bjorklund, Minnesota, 473.15

400 medley relay - 1. Auburn (Bartz, Jerger, Hargis, Newman), 3:08.96 ** Pool Record; 11. Minnesota (Hulseman, Henke, Zielinski, Schlessman), 3:15.25

200 medley relay - 1. Auburn (Bartz, Jerger, Hargis, Hawke) 1:25.40 ** U.S. Open, NCAA, Pool Record; 5. Minnesota (Hulseman, Bathurst, Zielinski, Schlessman), 1:27.17

400 IM - 1. Tom Wilkens, Stanford, 3:45.59; 17. Bill Bishop, Minnesota, 3:53.79; 21. Jonathan McLeod, Minnesota, 3:54.48; 29. Yoav Mieri, Minnesota, 3:57.40

100 fly - 1. Lars Frolander, SMU, 46.28; 4. Martin Zielinski, Minnesota, 47.00; 35. John Cahoy, Minnesota, 49.30

200 free - 1. John Piersma, Michigan, 1:34.88

100 breast - 1. Jeremy Linn, Tennessee, 52.32 ** Pool Record; 22. Mitch Henke, Minnesota, 55.76; 28. Ty Bathurst, Minnesota, 56.00

100 back - 1. Neil Walker, Texas, 45.25

3-meter springboard - 1. Tyce Routson, Miami (Fla.), 643.10; 28. Isaac Bjorklund, Minnesota, 438.00

800 freestyle relay - 1. Michigan (Malchow, Rumley, Reich, Piersma), 6:23.51; 10. Minnesota (Rients, Cahoy, Schlessman, Bishop), 6:33.72

1650 freestyle - 1. Ryk Neethling, Arizona, 14:43.44; 8. Bill Bishop, Minnesota, 15:10.55

200 backstroke - 1. Lenny Krayzelburg, Southern California, 1:41.10 ** Pool Record

100 freestyle - 1. Lars Frolander, Southern Methodist, 42.89; 27T. Matt Schlessman, Minnesota, 44.41; 27T. Jeremy Rients, Minnesota, 44.41; 53. John Cahoy, Minnesota, 45.18; 58. Ty Bathurst, Minnesota, 45.35

200 breaststroke - 1. Jeremy Linn, Tennessee, 1:55.27 ** Pool Record; 22. Mitch Henke, Minnesota, 2:01.89

200 butterfly - 1. Stephen Parry, Florida State, 1:44.28 ** Pool Record; 15. Yoav Meiri, Minnesota, 1:47.88; 20. Martin Zielinski, Minnesota, 1:48.18; 28. Jonathan McLeod, Minnesota, 1:51.12

Platform diving - 1. Tyce Routson, Miami (Fla.), 811.80; 18. Isaac Bjorklund, Minnesota, 387.05

400 freestyle relay - 1. Auburn (Hawke, Tucker, Newman, Shackell), 2:51.23; 12. Minnesota (Rients, Schlessman, Cahoy, Lopez), 2:57.55

Minnesota All-Americans

Ty Bathurst - 5th, 200 medley relay
Bill Bishop - 8th, 1650 free
Eriek Hulseman - 5th, 200 medley relay
Matt Schlessman - 5th, 200 medley relay
Martin Zielinski - 4th, 100 fly; 5th - 200 medley relay

Minnesota Honorable Mention All-Americans

Ty Bathurst - 12th, 200 free relay
Bill Bishop - 10th, 500 free; 10th, 800 free relay
John Cahoy - 10th, 800 free relay; 12th, 400 free relay
Mitch Henke - 11th, 400 medley relay
Eriek Hulseman - 11th, 400 medley relay
Luis Lopez - 12th, 200 free relay; 12th, 400 free relay
Yoav Mieri - 15th, 200 fly
Jeremy Rients - 12th, 200 free relay; 10th 800 free relay; 12th, 400 free relay
Matt Schlessman - 12th, 200 free relay; 11th, 400 medley relay; 10th, 800 free relay; 12th, 400 free relay
Martin Zielinski - 11th, 400 medley relay

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA



SPORTS NEWS

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

MEDIA ADVISORY


MEDIA ADVISORY

March 31, 1997

FIRST DAY OF SPRING FOOTBALL PRACTICE SET FOR APRIL 1

The University of Minnesota football team will begin spring football practice Tuesday April 1 under the direction of new Head Coach Glen Mason. Practice is set to begin at approximately 3:45 at the Gibson-Nagurski football complex.

Mason will be available for interviews prior to practice in his office at 2 p.m. Players will be available for interviews after practice. No player interviews will be conducted on the practice field prior to practice.



SPORTS NEWS

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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 1, 1997

MINNESOTA MEN'S GOLF TEAM RANKED NO. 20 IN LATEST POLL

The University of Minnesota men's golf team is No. 20 in the latest Rolex Collegiate Rankings with 103.890 points. Ohio State, No. 14 in the poll with 141.053 points, is the only Big Ten team ranked higher than the Golden Gophers.

The University of Nevada-Las Vegas is the top ranked team with 346.397 points.

Minnesota finished sixth out of 20 teams at last weekend's Dr. Pepper Invitational in Pottsboro, Texas.

The Golden Gophers next compete in the Marshall Invitational in Huntington, W.Va. on April 11-12.

Rolex Men's Team Rankings

Rank	Team	Points
1	UNLV	346.397
2	Oklahoma State	303.641
3	TCU	278.418
4	Clemson	266.506
5	Southern California	229.886
6	North Carolina	220.477
7	New Mexico	218.594
8	Arizona	217.189
9	Arizona State	205.357
10	Wake Forest	204.504
11	Florida	198.322
12	East Tennessee St.	191.597
13	Texas	187.062
14	Ohio State	141.053
15	Virginia	136.882
16	Auburn	121.290
17	Mississippi State	120.429
18	Georgia Tech	119.991
19	Brigham Young	104.309
20	Minnesota	103.890
21	Virginia-Commonwealth	103.616
22	Pepperdine	92.489
23	Washington	92.240
24	Houston	90.478
25	Georgia	87.324



GOLDEN GOPHER MEN'S ATHLETICS

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

April 7, 1997

This Week in Gopher Sports

Gopher Hotline

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

Monday, April 7:
Defensive coordinator **David Gibbs**

Tuesday, April 8:
Offensive coordinator **Elliot Uzelac**

Wednesday, April 9:
Head track coach **Phil Lundin**

Thursday, April 10:
Quarterback **Cory Sauter**

Friday, April 11:
Head baseball coach **John Anderson**

Saturday-Sunday, April 12-13:
To be determined

GET WIRED!

The U of M Men's Athletic Department is now on the Internet. The World Wide Web site contains press releases, statistics, rosters, schedules and much more. The Web pages can be accessed at:
<http://gophersports.umn.edu>

Tues,
April 8

• **Baseball** at Iowa State Cyclones
Cap Timm Field
Ames, Iowa
KSGS-950 AM, 2 p.m.

Friday,
April 11

• **Baseball** at Penn State Nittany Lions
Beaver Field, University Park, Pa.
KSGS-950 AM, 3 p.m.
• **Tennis** vs. Northwestern Wildcats
98th Street Racquet Club, 6 p.m.
• **Track** at Sea Ray Relays
Knoxville, Tenn., All Day
• **Golf** at Marshal Invitational
Huntington, W. Va., All Day

Saturday,
April 12

• **Baseball** at Penn State Nittany Lions (2)
Beaver Field, University Park, Pa.
KSGS-950 AM, 1 p.m.
• **Tennis** vs. Wisconsin Badgers
98th Street Racquet Club, 6 p.m.
• **Track** at Sea Ray Relays
Knoxville, Tenn., All Day
• **Golf** at Marshal Invitational
Huntington, W. Va., All Day

Sunday,
April 13

• **Baseball** at Penn State Nittany Lions
Beaver Field, University Park, Pa.
KSGS-950 AM, 1 p.m.



TENNIS

NETTERS HOST NORTHWESTERN, WISCONSIN THIS WEEKEND: The Golden Gophers (7-9, 3-3) will be back in competition this weekend as they host Big Ten Conference rivals Northwestern and Wisconsin in matches at 98th Street Club in Bloomington, Minn.. Minnesota will take on the Wildcats at 6 p.m. on Friday, followed by the showdown with the Badgers at 6 p.m. on Saturday.

TEAM BOMBS MICHIGAN STATE AND MICHIGAN: The Golden Gophers appear to be back on course to challenge for another Big Ten championship after disposing of Michigan State and Michigan in matches last weekend at 98th Street Club in Bloomington, Minn. Minnesota defeated MSU 6-1 on Friday evening, then defeated Michigan by the same count in a Sunday morning home match. Match summaries appear below:

Friday, April 4 • 98th Street Club
MINNESOTA 6, MICHIGAN STATE 1
Singles

Lars Hjarrand (MN) def. Trey Eubanks (MSU) 5-7, 6-3, 6-4
Tom Chicoine (MN) def. Aaron Murray (MSU) 6-1, 6-3
Ben Gabler (MN) def. Chris Struck (MSU) 6-4, 6-2
Adam Selkirk (MN) def. Ben Hetzler (MSU) 6-4, 3-6, 7-6 (4)
Ivica Primorac (MSU) def. Martin Michaelowski (MN) 4-6, 7-6 (7), 6-1
John Cheregi (MN) def. Mark Jacobson (MSU) 4-6, 6-3, 6-2

Doubles
Gabler/Hjarrand (MN) def. Struck/Eubanks (MSU) 8-4
Chicoine/Martin Kristoffersen (MN) def. Primorac/Ken Kigongo (MSU) 9-8
Robin Rutili/Michaelowski (MN) def. Hetzler/Francisco Trinidad (MSU) 8-1

Sunday, April 6 • 98th Street Club
MINNESOTA 6, MICHIGAN 1
Singles

Lars Hjarrand (MN) def. Dave Paradzik (MICH) 7-6, 6-1
Ben Gabler (MN) def. Matt Wright (MICH) 6-3, 2-6, 6-4
Tom Chicoine (MN) def. Arvid Swan (MICH) 3-6, 6-4, 6-3
Adam Selkirk (MN) def. William Farah (MICH) 6-3, 6-4
Jake Raiton (MICH) def. John Cheregi (MN) 6-4, 6-7, 7-6
Martin Michaelowski (MN) def. Brad McFarlane (MICH) 6-7, 6-4, 6-2

Doubles
Hjarrand/Gabler (MN) def. Swan/McFarlane (MICH) 9-7
Chicoine/Cheregi (MN) def. Wright/Raiton (MICH) 8-5
Michaelowski/Rutili (MN) def. Paradzik/Miki Pustai (MICH)

WELCOME BACK LARS: Three-time all-Big Ten selection senior **LARS HJARRAND** (Oslo, Norway) returned to the Golden Gopher lineup with a three-set win at number one singles and paired with three-year doubles partner senior Ben Gabler in a convincing 8-4 victory at number one doubles in Friday's win over Michigan State. Hjarrand followed on Sunday with a straight-set win in singles and again paired with Gabler for a doubles win. Hjarrand sat out the fall and winter seasons because he is just three credits shy of graduation, and will be finishing up his degree work during spring quarter. Consequently, the match against the Spartans was the first time this season he was eligible to play with the Golden Gophers.

DOUBLES SUCCESS: The Golden Gophers' doubles tandems have been dominating opponents of late, winning all nine matches in the last three team duals and winning the team doubles point in seven of the last eight matches. Minnesota has won the doubles point in 11 of 16 matches this season.

ON THE HORIZON: Following this weekend's home slate, Minnesota will conclude its Big Ten dual match schedule by travelling to Purdue (April 19) and Illinois (April 20) before heading to East Lansing, Mich., for the Big Ten Tournament from April 24-27.



TRACK AND FIELD

1997 TRACK & FIELD SCHEDULE

Indoor Track & Field			
DATE	MEET	PLACE	RESULT/TIME
Jan. 4	Early Bird Open	UM Fieldhouse	No team scores
Jan. 11	Northwest Open	UM Fieldhouse	No team scores
Jan. 18	Badger Track Classic	Madison, Wis.	No team scores
Jan. 25	Minnesota Invite	UM Fieldhouse	No team scores
Manitoba, Drake, Marquette, Iowa			
Jan 31	Mercantile Bank Invite	Cedar Falls, Iowa	5th/37.25 pts.
Feb. 7-8	Iowa State Invitational	Ames, Iowa	No team scores
Feb. 14	Snowshoe Open	UM Fieldhouse	No team scores
Feb. 22-23	Big Ten Indoor Champ.	Iowa City, Iowa	3rd/83.33 pts.
Feb. 28	NCAA Qualifying Meet	Ames, Iowa	No team scores
Mar. 7-8	NCAA Indoor Champ.	Indianapolis, Ind.	T10th/16 pts.
Outdoor Track & Field			
Mar. 28-29	Raleigh Relays	Raleigh, N.C.	No team scores
Apr. 4-5	Texas Relays	Austin, Texas	No team scores
Apr. 11-12	Sea Ray Relays	Knoxville, Tenn.	TBA
Apr. 19	Hawkeye Invitational/ Mount San Antonio Relays	Iowa City, Iowa Walnut, Calif.	TBA TBA
Apr. 25-26	Drake Relays	Des Moines, Iowa	TBA
May 3	Gold Country Classic	Bierman Field	TBA
May 4	Jesse Owens	Columbus, Ohio	TBA
May 10	Minnesota Invitational	Bierman Field	9 a.m.
May 17	Minnesota Last Chance	Bierman Field	TBA
May 23-24	Big Ten Outdoor Champ.	Champaign, Ill.	TBA
June 4-7	NCAA Outdoor Champ.	Bloomington, Ind.	TBA

COMING UP: The Minnesota men's track and field team competes at the Sea Ray Relays on April 11-12 in Knoxville, Tenn.

MINNESOTA POLE VAULTER BREAKS SCHOOL RECORD, AUTOMATICALLY QUALIFIES FOR NCAAs AT TEXAS RELAYS:

Minnesota sophomore **VESA RANTANEN** (Virrat, Finland) broke an outdoor school record and automatically qualified for the NCAA meet with a mark of 18-5 1/4 (5.62m) in the pole vault last Saturday at the Texas Relays in Austin, Texas.

Rantanen's vault broke the old Golden Gopher record of 18-4 3/4 (5.61m) set by Martin Eriksson in 1993. Last week Rantanen set a new meet record at the Raleigh Relays in Raleigh, N.C. in the pole vault with a mark of 17-3 (5.26m).

GOLDEN GOPHER HIGH JUMPER FINISHES SECOND AT TEXAS RELAYS, AUTOMATICALLY QUALIFIES FOR NCAAs:

Finishing second in the high jump with a mark of 7-4 1/2 (2.25m) at the Texas Relays last Saturday and also automatically qualifying for the NCAA meet was freshman **STEFFAN STRAND** (Upplands-Vasby, Sweden).

The mark is a freshman outdoor school record, breaking Chris Murrell's jump of 7-2 (2.19m) set in 1990.

THREE MINNESOTA TRACK AND FIELD ATHLETES PROVISIONALLY QUALIFY FOR NCAAs AT TEXAS RELAYS:

Provisionally qualifying for the NCAA meet at the Texas Relays last weekend were Golden Gopher seniors **JASON SCHLUETER** (New London, Wis.) and **TYE HARVEY** (Jamestown, Calif.) and junior **CHAD YENCHESKY** (DePere, Wis.).

Schlueter provisionally qualified in the discus with a throw of 191-0 (58.22m). The mark placed him fourth in the event at the Texas Relays.

Harvey qualified and finished sixth at the meet in the pole vault with a mark of 17-7 1/4 (5.37m).

Yenchesky qualified in the shot put with a toss of 58-3 1/4 (17.76m), good for third place at the relays.

HURDLER FINISHES IN SEVENTH PLACE

AT TEXAS RELAYS: Junior **NILES DENEEN** (St. Paul, Minn.) placed seventh in the 110-meter high hurdles with a time of 14.59 at the Texas Relays.

No team scores were kept at the meet.

GOLDEN GOPHER RESULTS FROM THE TEXAS RELAYS:

Pole Vault: 1. Vesa Rantanen, Minnesota, 18-5 1/4 (5.62m); 6. Tye Harvey, Minnesota, 17-7 1/4 (5.37m); 11. Seth Mischke, Minnesota, 16-7 1/2 (5.07m).

High Jump: 2. Steffan Strand, Minnesota, 7-4 1/2 (2.25m).

Shot Put: 3. Chad Yenchesky, Minnesota, 58-3 1/4 (17.76m); 12. Jeff Marsh, Minnesota, 54-0 (16.46m).

Discus Throw: 3. Jason Schlueter, Minnesota, 191-0 (58.22m).

110-Meter Hurdles: 7. Niles Deneen, Minnesota, 14.59.

1997 MINNESOTA AUTOMATIC OUTDOOR QUALIFIERS:

Athlete	Event	Score	Meet
Vesa Rantanen	Pole Vault	18-5 1/4 (5.62)	4/4-5
Steffan Strand	High Jump	7-4 1/2 (2.25)	4/4-5

1997 MINNESOTA PROVISIONAL OUTDOOR QUALIFIERS:

Athlete	Event	Score	Meet
Vesa Rantanen	Pole Vault	17-3 (5.26)	3/28-29
Chad Yenchesky	Shot Put	58-4 3/4 (17.8)	3/28-29
Jason Schlueter	Discus	191-0 (58.22)	4/4-5
Tye Harvey	Pole Vault	17-7 1/4 (5.37)	4/4-5
Chad Yenchesky	Shot Put	58-3 1/4 (17.76)	4/4-5



GYMNASTICS

1997 GYMNASTICS SCHEDULE

DATE	MEET	PLACE	SCORE/TIME
Jan. 11	Alumni Meet (ex)	Sports Pavilion	L / 217.925
Jan. 18	Windy City Invite	Chicago, Ill.	7th/211.900
Jan. 31	Iowa	Iowa City, Iowa	L/223.875
Feb. 8	Michigan and Michigan State	Sports Pavilion	W/222.100
Feb. 15	Winter Cup	Battle Creek, Mich.	No team scores
Feb. 22	New Mexico and Santa Barbara	Albuquerque, N.M.	2nd/222.40
Mar. 1	Ohio State	Sports Pavilion	L/228.5-228.725
Mar. 9	Nebraska	Lincoln, Neb.	L/225.15-230.175
Mar. 22-23	Big Ten Champ.	Sports Pavilion	4th/227.45
Mar. 29	Illinois-Chicago	Chicago, Ill.	L/226.05-227.750
Apr. 5	NCAA Regional	West Point, N.Y.	5th/224.125
Apr. 17-19	NCAA Champ.	Iowa City, Iowa	7 p.m.

Bold indicates home meets

NCAA CHAMPIONSHIPS UP NEXT: Three Minnesota gymnasts will travel to the NCAA Championships in Iowa City, Iowa, on April 17-19.

Senior co-captain **FRANK TICKNOR** (Milwaukee, Wis.) tied for fourth on the vault with a career-high score of 9.800. Sophomore **JASON KROB** (St. Charles, Mo.) and junior **GEORGE BEATTY** (Aberdeen, N.J.) both advanced on the pommel horse. Krob took fifth with a score of 9.675, and Beatty placed eighth with a 9.625 on that event.

MINNESOTA FINISHES FIFTH AT EAST REGIONAL: The University of Minnesota men's gymnastics team ended its season this weekend, finishing fifth at the NCAA East Regional late Saturday night in West Point, N.Y., with a team score of 224.125. Defending national champion Ohio State won the competition and will advance to the NCAA Championships along with Iowa and Penn State.

GOLDEN GOPHERS RANKED 7TH: The University of Minnesota men's gymnastics team moved up to 7th by regional qualifying score in the final NCAA National Rankings released last week. This is the team's highest ranking of the season, surpassing the No. 8 ranking the team held last week and in the preseason coaches' poll. The Golden Gophers are also ranked fourth in the Eastern Region. All seven teams in the Big Ten are ranked in the nation's top 20 and in the East Region's top 10.

NCAA Team National Rankings – March 31 (by regional qualifying average): 1. Ohio State; 2. Cal Berkeley; 3. Iowa; 4. Oklahoma; 5. Nebraska; 6. Penn State; 7.

Minnesota; 8. Illinois; 9. Illinois-Chicago; 10. New Mexico; 11. Michigan State; 12t. UMass, Stanford; 14. Brigham Young; 15. Temple; 16. Michigan; 17. Navy; 18. Syracuse; 19. William and Mary; 20. Army

NCAA East Region Team Rankings – March 31 (by regional qualifying average): 1. Ohio State; 2. Iowa; 3. Penn State; 4. **Minnesota**; 5. Illinois; 6. Illinois-Chicago; 7. Michigan State; 8. UMass; 9. Temple; 10. Michigan

WALL IS UM'S TOP RANKED GYMNAST: On the still rings, Heath Wall is tied for 14th in the nation and ninth in the Eastern Region in the rankings by NCAA three-score average. On the pommel horse, sophomore **JASON KROB** (St. Charles, Mo.) is tied for 15th in the nation, 8th in the region. Senior co-captain **FRANK TICKNOR** (Milwaukee, Wis.) is ranked 10th in the region on the rings as well. **GEORGE BEATTY** (Jr., Aberdeen, N.J.) is tied for 20th in the nation and 12th in the region on the pommel horse.

Ticknor is the 14th-ranked all-arounder in the nation and the eighth-ranked gymnast in the Eastern Region. Wall is the 15th-ranked all-arounder in the nation and 9th in the region.

MINNESOTA SEASON BESTS:

Team Score	228.500	vs. Ohio State 3/1/97
Floor Exercise	37.950	at Big Tens 3/22/97
Pommel Horse	38.550	vs. Ohio State 3/1/97
Still Rings	38.500	vs. Ohio State 3/1/97
Vault	38.350	at East Regional 4/5/97
Parallel Bars	38.200	at NM/UCSB 2/22
Horizontal Bar	37.950	vs. Mich/MSU 2/8
Floor Exercise	9.600	Frank Ticknor (at NM/UCSB)
Pommel Horse	9.825	Jason Krob (at Iowa)
Still Rings	9.750	Heath Wall (at NM/UCSB, vs. OSU) Frank Ticknor (vs. Ohio State)
Vault	9.700	Frank Ticknor (at East Regional)
Parallel Bars	9.750	George Beatty (vs. Ohio State)
Horizontal Bar	9.650	Heath Wall (vs. Ohio State) Dan Boots (vs. Ohio State)
All-Around	57.500	Heath Wall (vs. Ohio State)

RESULTS FROM NCAA EAST REGIONAL

Team Scores: 1. Ohio State – 231.600; 2. Iowa – 230.125; 3. Penn State – 229.225; 4. Illinois – 224.825; 5. Minnesota – 224.125; 6. Illinois-Chicago – 220.000

All-Around: 1. Drew Durbin (OSU) 57.925; 2. Mike Dutka (PSU) 57.725; 3. Lalo Haro (MICH) 57.400; 9. Frank Ticknor (MN) 55.975; 11. Heath Wall (MN) 55.400; 13. Lindsey Fang (MN) 55.150

Floor Exercise: 1. Blaine Wilson (OSU) 9.800; 2. Mike Dutka (PSU) 9.750; 3. Brian Hamilton (IOWA) 9.700; 3t. Chad Conner (MN) 9.350; 27t. Lindsey Fang (MN) 9.250; 38. Heath Wall (MN) 9.000; 40. George Beatty (MN) 8.800; 42. Dan Boots (MN) 8.750

Pommel Horse: 1. Drew Durbin (OSU) 9.850; 2. Ben

Hayward (ARMY) 9.800; 3. Blaine Wilson (OSU) 9.725; 5. Jason Krob (MN) 9.675; 8. George Beatty (MN) 9.625; 16t. Lindsey Fang, Bob Hubbard (MN) 9.450; 25. Frank Ticknor (MN) 9.350; 40. Heath Wall (MN) 8.800

Still Rings: 1. Victor Prisk (MSU) 9.825; 2. Ron Roeder (PSU) 9.800; 3. Tyler Vogt (IOWA) 9.775; 14t. Frank Ticknor (MN) 9.625; 27t. Dan Boots, Heath Wall (MN) 9.350; 37t. Matt Kieffer (MN) 9.050; 41t. Lindsey Fang (MN) 9.000; 46. Mike Mamakos (MN) 8.650

Vault: 1. Blaine Wilson (OSU) 9.825; 2t. Mike Dutka (PSU), Matt Tucker (NAVY) 9.775; 4t. Frank Ticknor (MN) 9.700; 16t. Lindsey Fang (MN) 9.600; 22t. George Beatty (MN) 9.550; 27t. Heath Wall (MN) 9.500; 44. Bob Hubbard (MN) 9.150; 48. Dan Boots (MN) 8.675

Parallel Bars: 1. Blaine Wilson (OSU) 9.875; 2. Mike Dutka (PSU) 9.750; 3. Lalo Haro (MICH) 9.725; 15t. Bob Hubbard (MN) 9.450; 20t. Chad Conner (MN) 9.350; 25t. Lindsey Fang, Heath Wall (MN) 9.250; 41. Frank Ticknor (MN) 8.800

Horizontal Bar: 1. Doug Stibel (OSU) 9.875; 2. Travis Romagnoli (ILL) 9.825; 3t. Drew Durbin, Mike Morgan (OSU) 9.750; 15t. Heath Wall (MN) 9.500; 21t. Frank Ticknor (MN) 9.300; 41. George Beatty (MN) 8.650; 42. Lindsey Fang (MN) 8.600; 43. Bob Hubbard (MN) 8.450; 50. Dan Boots (MN) 7.450



GOLF

UP NEXT: The Golden Gophers travel to Huntington, W.V., for the Marshal Invitational Friday and Saturday.

GOLFERS TAKE WEEK OFF: The University of Minnesota men's golf team took last week off. The team was last in action on March 29-30 when it finished sixth at the Dr. Pepper Invitational in Pottsboro, Texas.

Big Ten Freshman of the Year candidate **MARTIN LEMESURIER** (South Hampton, England) and sophomore **ANDY KOMOR** (New Brighton, Minn.) were the top finishers for the Golden Gophers with three-round totals of 226, good for a tie for 24th place

GOLFERS RANKED IN LATEST POLL: The University of Minnesota men's golf team is No. 20 in the latest Rolex Collegiate Rankings with 103.890 points. Ohio State, ranked No. 14 in the poll with 141.053 points, is the only other Big Ten team ranked higher than the Golden Gophers. The University of Nevada-Las Vegas is the top ranked team with 346.397 points.

ROLEX MEN'S TEAM RANKINGS

1. UNLV, 346.397; 2. Oklahoma State, 303.641; 3. TCU, 278.418; 4. Clemson, 226.506; 5. Southern California, 229.886; 6. North Carolina, 220.477; 7. New Mexico, 218.594; 8. Arizona, 217.189; 9. Arizona State, 205.357; 10. Wake Forest, 204.504; 11. Florida, 193.322; 12. East Tennessee State, 191.597; 13. Texas, 187.062; 14. Ohio State, 141.053; 15. Virginia, 136.882; 16. Auburn, 121.290; 17. Mississippi State, 120.429; 18. Georgia Tech, 119.991; 19. BYU, 104.309; 20. Minnesota, 103.890



SPORTS NEWS

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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 1, 1997

MINNESOTA MEN'S GOLF TEAM RANKED NO. 20 IN LATEST POLL

The University of Minnesota men's golf team is No. 20 in the latest Rolex Collegiate Rankings with 103.890 points. Ohio State, No. 14 in the poll with 141.053 points, is the only Big Ten team ranked higher than the Golden Gophers.

The University of Nevada-Las Vegas is the top ranked team with 346.397 points.

Minnesota finished sixth out of 20 teams at last weekend's Dr. Pepper Invitational in Pottsboro, Texas.

The Golden Gophers next compete in the Marshall Invitational in Huntington, W.Va. on April 11-12.

Rolex Men's Team Rankings

Rank	Team	Points
1	UNLV	346.397
2	Oklahoma State	303.641
3	TCU	278.418
4	Clemson	266.506
5	Southern California	229.886
6	North Carolina	220.477
7	New Mexico	218.594
8	Arizona	217.189
9	Arizona State	205.357
10	Wake Forest	204.504
11	Florida	198.322
12	East Tennessee St.	191.597
13	Texas	187.062
14	Ohio State	141.053
15	Virginia	136.882
16	Auburn	121.290
17	Mississippi State	120.429
18	Georgia Tech	119.991
19	Brigham Young	104.309
20	Minnesota	103.890
21	Virginia-Commonwealth	103.616
22	Pepperdine	92.489
23	Washington	92.240
24	Houston	90.478
25	Georgia	87.324



SPORTS NEWS

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

For Immediate Release

April 2, 1997

GOPHERS HONORED ON WINTER ACADEMIC ALL-BIG TEN TEAMS

A total of 17 University of Minnesota men's student-athletes have been named to the 1997 Winter Academic All-Big Ten Team.


Head Coach Dennis Dale's swimming team leads the way with 10 honorees. Sophomore John Cahoy (chemistry), who placed fifth in the 100 freestyle at the 1997 Big Ten Swimming and Diving Championships, has a perfect GPA heading into the spring.

Senior basketball player Trevor Winter, a valuable member of the 1996-97 Golden Gophers NCAA Final Four team, collected the honor for the third time in his career.

Senior gymnast Heath Wall was honored for the second time in his career.

The complete listing of U of M student-athletes honored follows:

<u>Sport</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>GPA</u>	<u>Major</u>	<u>Hometown</u>
Basketball	Trevor Winter	Sr	3.31	Management	Slayton, Minn.
Gymnastics	Matt Kieffer	So	3.89	Pre-Business	Inver Grove Heights, Minn.
Gymnastics	Jason Krob	So	3.69	International Business/Spanish	St. Charles, Mo.
Gymnastics	Heath Wall	Sr	3.21	Kinesiology	Sterling Heights, Mich.
Swimming & Diving	Ty Bathurst	Jr	3.25	Kinesiology	Albuquerque, N.M.
Swimming & Diving	Isaac Bjorklund	Sr	3.17	Pre-Medicine	New Brighton, Minn.
Swimming & Diving	John Cahoy	So	4.00	Chemistry	Hudson, Wis.
Swimming & Diving	Cubby Campbell	So	3.65	Pre-Medicine	Minneapolis, Minn.
Swimming & Diving	Adam Duey	Jr	3.74	International Business	Beaverton, Ore.
Swimming & Diving	Luis Lopez	So	3.69	Engineering	Aurora, Colo.
Swimming & Diving	Jonathon McLeod	So	3.55	Undecided	Regina, Sask.
Swimming & Diving	Jeff Miller	So	3.92	Mechanical Engineering	Brookfield, Wis.
Swimming & Diving	Matt Schlessman	Sr	3.77	Mechanical Engineering	Avon, Ohio
Swimming & Diving	Martin Zielinski	So	3.43	Biology	Bloomington, Minn.
Wrestling	Brandon Eggum	Fr	3.22	Pre-Business	Sidney, Mont.
Wrestling	Tim Hartung	So	3.02	Kinesiology	Durand, Wis.
Wrestling	Brandon Paulson	Jr	3.27	Management/ Finance	Coon Rapids, Minn.



SPORTS NEWS

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

For Immediate Release

April 4, 1997

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA EIGHTH IN SEARS DIRECTORS CUP STANDINGS

The University of Minnesota is currently in eighth-place in the fourth annual Sears Directors Cup standings. The competition recognizes the finest all-around collegiate athletics programs in the nation.

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

Directors Cup points are based on national tournament finishes. The national champion in a sport earns 64 points, second gets 63, etc. In the case of a tie, the total points for the place are divided between the number of schools involved in the tie.

Minnesota's eighth-place standing is the highest ranking among Big Ten schools. It is also the highest ranking in U of M history. The previous best for the Golden Gophers was 14th which occurred in the final 1993-94 standings.

Minnesota earned 340.5 of its 421.5 total points during the winter sports season. Only Stanford (414.0 during the winter sports season) and North Carolina (398.5), which are one-two in the standings, earned more points during the winter.

Leading the way with third-place finishes for the Golden Gophers were the men's basketball and wrestling teams.

Minnesota earned points in the following sports this winter:

Men's Wrestling (3rd, 62.0)
Men's Basketball (3rd, 61.5)
Men's Hockey (5th, 58.5)
Men's Track and Field (10th, 54.0)
Men's Swimming and Diving (12th, 52.5)
Women's Swimming and Diving (13th, 52.0)

Sears Directors Cup Standings: 1. Stanford, 646.5; 2. North Carolina, 631.5; 3. Nebraska, 547.0; 4. Texas, 460; 5. Colorado, 443.5; 6. Notre Dame, 432.0; 7. Florida, 424.5; 8. Minnesota, 421.5; 9. Wisconsin, 400.5; 10. Penn State, 396.5; 11. Michigan, 369.0; 12. Arizona, 359.5; 13. Ohio State, 349.0; 14. Kentucky, 332.5; 15. Michigan State, 330.5; 16. UCLA, 328.0; 17. Louisiana State, 321.5; 18. Virginia, 315.5; 19. Auburn, 314.5; 20. Brigham Young, 313.0; 21. Iowa, 311.0; 22. Villanova, 299.5; 23. USC, 295.5; 24. Iowa State, 292.5; 25. Tennessee, 288.0.



SPORTS ILLUSTRATED NEWS

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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 6, 1997

HOCKEY AWARD WINNERS HONORED AT BANQUET

The University of Minnesota hockey team held its annual year-end banquet Sunday evening at the Sheraton Metrodome in Minneapolis. A total of four seniors were honored along with the following award winners. All awards are voted on by the players and staff.

Mike Crupi Award - Most Determined Player - **Dan Hendrickson**

Elwin "Doc" Romnes Leadership/Sportsmanship Award - **Casey Hankinson**

Dr. V. George Nagobads Unsung Hero Award - **Brian LaFleur**


Frank Pond Rookie of the Year Award - **Dave Spehar**

John Mayasich Outstanding Student-Athlete Award - **Brian LaFleur**

John Mariucci Most Valuable Player Award - **Mike Crowley**

In addition, awards were given to 1996-97 captains Mike Crowley, Casey Hankinson, and Nick Checco. First goal awards were presented to sophomore Bill Kohn and freshmen Dave Spehar, Rico Pagel, Nate Miller, Cory Miller, Mike Lyons, and Ben Clymer. First career win and first career shutout awards were given to freshman goaltender Erik Day.

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

April 6, 1997

GOLDEN GOPHER DOUBLEHEADER AGAINST MICHIGAN CANCELLED

Today's 11:30 a.m. doubleheader between the Minnesota Golden Gophers and Michigan Wolverines has been cancelled because of poor weather conditions. The two seven-inning Big Ten Conference games will not be rescheduled.

Minnesota (16-11 overall and 5-1 in the Big Ten) returns to action on Tuesday, April 8, when they travel to Iowa State for a 3 p.m. game against the Cyclones.

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

April 7, 1997

MINNESOTA/IOWA STATE BASEBALL GAME RESCHEDULED

The Minnesota Golden Gopher and Iowa State Cyclone baseball game scheduled for Tuesday, April 8 has been rescheduled due to severe weather conditions in Ames, Iowa. The game will now be played on Tuesday, April 15 at 3 p.m. in Ames.

Minnesota returns to action this weekend with a four-game Big Ten series against the Penn State. The Golden Gophers (16-11 overall and 5-1 in the Big Ten) play the Nittany Lions in a single game on Friday, April 11 at 3 p.m. The teams will play a doubleheader on Saturday, April 12 starting at 1 p.m. and finish the series with a single game on Sunday, April 13 at 1 p.m.

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

April 8, 1997

MINNESOTA SWIMMER NAMED ACADEMIC ALL-AMERICA

University of Minnesota swimmer Matt Schlessman was named second team GTE Academic All-America. Schlessman, a senior from Avon, Ohio, is a mechanical engineering major with a 3.77 GPA.


Schlessman is a two-time NCAA All-American and a 15-time honorable mention All-American. He was a member of all five Golden Gopher relay teams which placed at the 1997 NCAA Swimming and Diving Championships.

Schlessman finished third in the 100 freestyle at this year's Big Ten Championships and was a three-event placewinner at the 1996 conference meet. He also helped Minnesota earn its first Big Ten swimming and diving championship in 60 years last season.

Schlessman was also named academic All-Big Ten this season as well as in 1995 and 1996.

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

SPORTS NEWS

The 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 has its right arm raised in a fist and its left hand on its hip. The mascot is integrated into the letter "S" of "SPORTS".

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

For Immediate Release

April 8, 1997


WRESTLING AWARDS BANQUET SET FOR APRIL 15

The 1997 University of Minnesota wrestling team will hold its annual "Gopher Wrestling Team Awards Banquet" at the Sheraton Minneapolis Metrodome Hotel on Tuesday, April 15.

The banquet will honor the 1997 wrestling team, which finished third at the NCAA Championships in Cedar Falls, Iowa, on Mar. 22. Social hour begins at 6 p.m., followed by dinner at 7 p.m. and the awards ceremony at 8 p.m.

The banquet, which is open to the public, costs \$23 per person. For reservation information, please contact Lois Blum at the University of Minnesota wrestling office at (612) 625-1013.

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA



SPORTS NEWS

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

For Immediate Release

April 9, 1997

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA CROSS COUNTRY PROGRAM ANNOUNCES NATIONAL LETTER OF INTENT SIGNEE

Head Cross Country Coach Steve Plasencia announced today that Joey Corr, a student-athlete from East Lake High School in Redmond, Wash., has signed a national letter of intent to attend the University of Minnesota and run cross country and compete in track and field for the Golden Gophers.

Corr was runner-up at the 1996 state cross country meet in Washington. His best track time is 9:17.00 in the 3,200 meter run

“Joey is a legitimate national caliber student-athlete,” Plasencia said. “We are pleased he decided to attend the University of Minnesota.”

Corr is Plasencia’s first recruit since he became the head cross country coach at Minnesota in 1996.



SPORTS NEWS

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

For Immediate Release

April 11, 1997

GOPHER BASKETBALL TEAM INKS NATHANIEL TO NATIONAL LETTER OF INTENT

The University of Minnesota men's basketball office announced today that Kevin Nathaniel of San Antonio, Texas has signed a national letter of intent.

Nathaniel is a native of Camarillo, Calif., where he was graduated from Camarillo High School in 1994. For the past three years he has been serving in the U.S. Air Force at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio.

The 6-5, 200-pound swing man has been playing competitively on the Lackland Air Force Base team for the past three years in a league consisting of other military teams, former CBA and professional players. This past season he averaged 28.7 points, 7.1 rebounds, 5.3 assists and 2.1 steals in 44 games as his team posted a 32-12 record. He was selected to the All-Air Force team for this past year. Because of his military service, Nathaniel will have the full four years of athletic eligibility.

Nathaniel, who was born Nov. 10, 1976, averaged 21 points and six rebounds during his senior year at Camarillo High School en route to collecting first team all-conference and all-county honors. The school is located 45 minutes north of Los Angeles.

"Kevin is an outstanding athlete who fits our style and philosophy," said Head Coach Clem Haskins. "He is more mature because of his age and is an excellent basketball player and a very solid citizen. He has excellent potential as a Division I player. He can play either of the guard positions as well as small forward."



GOLDEN GOPHER MEN'S ATHLETICS

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

April 14, 1997

Gopher Hotline

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

Monday, April 14:

To be determined

Tuesday, April 15:

Junior quarterback **Cory Sauter**

Wednesday, April 16:

Head track and field coach **Phil Lundin**

Thursday, April 17:

Head gymnastics coach **Fred Roethlisberger**

Friday, April 18:

Head baseball coach **John Anderson**

Saturday-Sunday, April 19-20:

Head tennis coach **David Geatz**

GET WIRED!

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

<http://gophersports.umn.edu>

This Week in Gopher Sports

Tues.
April 15

• **Baseball** at Iowa State Cyclones
Cap Timm Field
Ames, Iowa
KSGS-950 AM, 3 p.m.

Wed.
April 16

• **Baseball** vs. Creighton Blue Jays (2)
Siebert Field
KSGS-950 AM, 2:30 p.m.

Thurs.
April 17

• **Gymnastics** at NCAA Championships
Carver-Hawkeye Arena
Iowa City Iowa, 7 p.m.

Fri.
April 18

• **Baseball** at Ohio State Buckeyes
Trautman Field, Columbus, Ohio
KSGS-950 AM, 3 p.m.
• **Tennis** at Illinois Fighting Illini
Champaign, Ill., TBD
• **Track** at Mt. San Antonio College Relays
Walnut, Calif., All Day
• **Gymnastics** at NCAA Championships
Carver-Hawkeye Arena
Iowa City Iowa, 7 p.m.

Sat.
April 19

• **Baseball** at Ohio State Buckeyes (2)
Trautman Field, Columbus, Ohio
KSGS-950 AM, 1 p.m.
• **Tennis** at Purdue Boilermakers
West Lafayette, Ind., 1 p.m.
• **Track** at Mt. San Antonio College Relays
Walnut, Calif., All Day
• **Track** at Hawkeye Invitational
Iowa City, Iowa, All Day
• **Gymnastics** at NCAA Championships
Carver-Hawkeye Arena
Iowa City Iowa, 7 p.m.

Sun.
April 20

• **Baseball** at Ohio State Buckeyes
Trautman Field, Columbus, Ohio
KSGS-950 AM, 1 p.m.



TENNIS

NETTERS TRAVEL TO PURDUE, ILLINOIS

THIS WEEKEND: The Golden Gophers (8-10, 4-4) will be back in competition this weekend as they travel to Purdue on Saturday (1 p.m.) and Illinois on Sunday (2 p.m.) for a pair of Big Ten matches. Minnesota has won three of its last four Big Ten matches as they take aim at a fifth conference title in the last six years. The Big Ten Tournament will be held from April 24-27 on the campus of Michigan State University in East Lansing, Mich.

LOSE TO NORTHWESTERN, REBOUND TO BLANK WISCONSIN:

The Golden Gophers met the buzzsaw of Big Ten play thus far in the 1997 season as the Northwestern Wildcats came to 98th Street Club in Bloomington last Friday evening and defeated the Maroon and Gold by the score of 5-2. Minnesota responded on Saturday evening by dismantling the Wisconsin Badgers by a 7-0 count at 98th Street Club. Results of the matches are listed below:

Friday, April 11
98th Street Club
Bloomington, Minn.

NORTHWESTERN 5, MINNESOTA 2

Singles

Alex Witt (NW) def. Lars Hjarrand (MN) 6-1, 7-5
Marc Silva (NW) def. Tom Chicoine (MN) 7-5, 7-6
Martin Bengtsson (NW) def. Ben Gabler (MN) 7-6, 6-3
Adam Selkirk (MN) def. Ry Tarpley (NW) 6-4, 6-1
Doug Bohaboy (NW) def. Martin Michalowski (MN) 6-4, 3-6, 6-4
Richard Preschern (NW) def. John Cheregi (MN) 4-6, 6-4, 7-6

Doubles

Gabler/Hjarrand (MN) def. Witt/Bengtsson (NW) 9-8
Chicoine/Cheregi (MN) def. Silva/Preschern (NW) 8-6
Tarpley/Bohaboy (NW) def. Michalowski/Robin Rutili (MN) 8-6

Saturday, April 12
98th Street Club
Bloomington, Minn.

MINNESOTA 7, WISCONSIN 0

Singles

Lars Hjarrand (MN) def. Mike Goldstein (WIS) 6-1, 7-5
Tom Chicoine (MN) def. John Thompson (WIS) 6-7, 6-1, 6-3
Ben Gabler (MN) def. David Chang (WIS) 6-4, 4-6, 7-6
Adam Selkirk (MN) def. Jeff Malik (WIS) 7-6, 6-3
Martin Michalowski (MN) def. Adam Schumacher (WIS) 6-4, 7-6
Martin Kristoffersen (MN) def. Tony Peterson (WIS) 6-3, 6-3

Doubles

Hjarrand/Gabler (MN) def. Goldstein/Chang (WIS) 8-5
Chicoine/Selkirk (MN) def. Thompson/Schumacher (WIS) 9-8
Malik/Peterson (WIS) def. Michalowski/Rutili (MN) 8-3

WELCOME BACK LARS: The return of three-time all-Big Ten selection senior **LARS HJARRAND** (Oslo, Norway) to the Golden Gopher lineup has given the team new life heading into the final portion of the season. Hjarrand's return to his spot at number one singles enables the Golden Gophers to have more flexibility with their lineup and allows players to play at least one spot lower in the lineup than they have this season. Hjarrand sat out the fall and winter seasons because he is just three credits shy of graduation, and will be finishing up his degree work during spring quarter. Consequently, the match against the Spartans was the first time this season he was eligible to play with the Golden Gophers.

DOUBLES YOUR PLEASURE: The Golden Gophers' doubles tandems have been dominating opponents of late, winning 13 of 15 showdowns in the last five team duals and winning the team doubles point in nine of the last 10 matches. Minnesota has won the doubles point in 13 of 18 matches this season.

ON THE HORIZON: Following this weekend's regular-season closing matches, Minnesota will head to East Lansing, Mich., for the Big Ten Tournament from April 24-27. The NCAA Regionals will take place from May 9-11.

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA 1996-97 MEN'S TENNIS RESULTS

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

<i>Singles</i>	<i>Overall</i>	<i>Dual</i>	<i>Tourn.</i>	<i>#1</i>	<i>#2</i>	<i>#3</i>	<i>#4</i>	<i>#5</i>	<i>#6</i>
Lars Hjarrand	2-2	2-2	0-0	2-2					
Ben Gabler	13-18	4-12	9-6	1-9	1-2	2-1			
Adam Selkirk	16-12	9-7	7-5		0-1	4-4	5-2		
Tom Chicoine	24-9	14-6	10-3	3-0	10-6	1-0			
John Cheregi	10-21	4-12	6-9			1-3	2-7	0-1	1-1
Martin Kristoffersen	9-12	5-7	4-5				0-1	0-5	5-1
Tim George	2-4	0-0	2-4						
Martin Michaelowski	19-10	10-5	9-5				1-0	6-4	3-1
Aaron Dvorak	2-6	0-0	2-6						
Robin Rutili	2-6	1-4	1-2						1-4
Team Totals	99-100	49-55	50-45	6-11	11-9	8-8	8-10	6-10	10-7

<i>Doubles</i>	<i>Overall</i>	<i>Dual</i>	<i>Tourn.</i>	<i>#1</i>	<i>#2</i>	<i>#3</i>
Hjarrand/Gabler	4-0	4-0	0-0	4-0		
Gabler/Selkirk	5-11	4-6	1-5	4-6		
Kristoffersen/Michaelowski	2-5	0-1	2-4			0-1
Chicoine/Cheregi	10-9	5-2	5-7		5-2	
Dvorak/George	2-2	0-0	2-2			
Michaelowski/George	1-3	0-0	1-3			
Rutili/Cheregi	1-0	1-0	0-0	1-0		
Selkirk/Chicoine	3-0	3-0	0-0		3-0	
Cheregi/Kristoffersen	1-3	1-3	0-0		1-3	
Chicoine/Michaelowski	0-1	0-1	0-0			0-1
Michaelowski/Rutili	11-4	11-4	0-0			11-4
Gabler/Kristoffersen	1-0	1-0	0-0	1-0		
Chicoine/Kristoffersen	4-0	4-0	0-0		4-0	
Gabler/Chicoine	1-0	1-0	0-0	1-0		
Selkirk/Michaelowski	0-1	0-1	0-0			0-1
Gabler/Cheregi	0-1	0-1	0-0	0-1		
Team Totals	46-40	35-19	11-21	11-7	13-5	11-7

CAREER RECORDS

(players with more than one year of competition)

<i>Player</i>	<i>Singles</i>	<i>Doubles</i>	<i>Total S/D Record</i>
Lars Hjarrand	79-41	69-25	148-66
Ben Gabler	92-50	64-41	156-91
Adam Selkirk	36-33	20-26	56-59
Tom Chicoine	49-28	33-30	82-58
John Cheregi	17-33	22-28	39-61
Martin Kristoffersen	31-26	24-23	55-49
Tim George	2-10	4-10	6-20
Robin Rutili	22-18	22-25	44-43



TRACK AND FIELD

1997 TRACK & FIELD SCHEDULE

DATE	MEET	Indoor Track & Field PLACE	RESULT/TIME
Jan. 4	Early Bird Open	UM Fieldhouse	No team scores
Jan. 11	Northwest Open	UM Fieldhouse	No team scores
Jan. 18	Badger Track Classic	Madison, Wis.	No team scores
Jan. 25	Minnesota Invite	UM Fieldhouse	No team scores
Jan 31	Manitoba, Drake, Marquette, Iowa	Cedar Falls, Iowa	5th/37.25 pts.
Feb. 7-8	Mercantile Bank Invite	Ames, Iowa	No team scores
Feb. 14	Iowa State Invitational	UM Fieldhouse	No team scores
Feb. 22-23	Snowshoe Open	Iowa City, Iowa	3rd/83.33 pts.
Feb. 28	Big Ten Indoor Champ.	Ames, Iowa	No team scores
Mar. 7-8	NCAA Qualifying Meet	Indianapolis, Ind.	T10th/16 pts.
Mar. 28-29	NCAA Indoor Champ.	Indianapolis, Ind.	T10th/16 pts.
Outdoor Track & Field			
Mar. 28-29	Raleigh Relays	Raleigh, N.C.	No team scores
Apr. 4-5	Texas Relays	Austin, Texas	No team scores
Apr. 11-12	Sea Ray Relays	Knoxville, Tenn.	No team scores
Apr. 19	Hawkeye Invitational/	Iowa City, Iowa	TBA
Apr. 25-26	Mount San Antonio Relays	Walnut, Calif.	TBA
May 3	Drake Relays	Des Moines, Iowa	TBA
May 4	Gold Country Classic	Bierman Field	TBA
May 4	Jesse Owens	Columbus, Ohio	TBA
May 10	Minnesota Invitational	Bierman Field	9 a.m.
May 17	Minnesota Last Chance	Bierman Field	TBA
May 23-24	Big Ten Outdoor Champ.	Champaign, Ill.	TBA
June 4-7	NCAA Outdoor Champ.	Bloomington, Ind.	TBA

COMING UP: The men's track and field team competes at the Mount San Antonio College Relays on April 18-19 in Walnut, Calif. and at the Hawkeye Invitational on April 19 in Iowa City, Iowa.

OBLEMAN, SCHLUETER, YENCHESKY PROVISIONALLY QUALIFY FOR NCAAs:

Minnesota seniors **RICK OBLEMAN** (Regina, Sask.) and **JASON SCHLUETER** (New London, Wis.) and junior **CHAD YENCHESKY** (DePere, Wis.) each provisionally qualified for the NCAA meet at the Sea Ray Relays in Knoxville, Tenn. on April 11-12.

Obleman's time of 8:52.49 in the 3,000 meter steeplechase invite at the Sea Ray Relays provisionally qualified him for the NCAAs. The time was good for third place at the relays.

Yenchesky finished fourth and provisionally qualified for the NCAAs with a mark of 57-9 (17.60m) in the shot put invite at the relays. Yenchesky has provisionally qualified for the NCAA meet three times this outdoor season.

Schlueter's throw of 184-2 (56.14m) in the discus invite provisionally qualified him for the NCAAs. The mark was good for fourth place at the relays. Schlueter has provisionally qualified for the NCAA meet two times this outdoor season.

McCLURE FINISHES THIRD IN 5,000 METER RUN OPEN:

Finishing third in the 5,000 meter run open

with a time of 14:53.95 at the Sea Ray Relays last weekend was sophomore **CHARLES McCLURE** (Brookfield, Wis.).

SHOT PUTTERS FINISH TWO-THREE IN

SHOT PUT OPEN: Yenchesky finished second and sophomore teammate **JEFF MARSH** (Seymour, Wis.) placed third in the shot put open at the Sea Ray Relays last weekend. Yenchesky had a throw of 56-8 1/2 (17.28m), while Marsh had a toss of 54-8 1/4 (16.67m).

RESULTS FROM SEA RAY RELAYS:

100 Meter Dash: 18. Tim Van Voorhis, Minnesota, 10.82 w: 1.3; 29. Adam Freed, Minnesota, 11.21 w: -0.7.

800 Meter Run: 18. Ron Hoffner, Minnesota, 1:51.42.

1,500 Meter Run: 22. Nate Clay, Minnesota, 3:53.37.

5,000 Meter Run Open: 3. Charles McClure, Minnesota, 14:53.95; 11. Jeremy Polson, Minnesota, 15:16.53.

110 Meter Hurdles: 6. Niles Deneen, Minnesota, 14.27 w: 2.2; 8. Ben Jensen, Minnesota, 14.32 w: 2.2.

3,000 Meter Steeplechase Invite: 3. Rick Obleman, Minnesota, 8:52.49.

4 x 110 Meter Relay Hurdle: 3. Minnesota, 1:00.14.

1 Meter Sprint Medley: 4. Minnesota, 3:26.50.

Pole Vault Open: 5. Seth Mischke, Minnesota, 16-8 3/4 (5.10m); 6. Ben Jensen, Minnesota, 16-2 3/4 (4.95m).

Shot Put Invite: 4. Chad Yenchesky, Minnesota, 57-9 (17.60m).

Shot Put Open: 2. Chad Yenchesky, Minnesota, 56-8 1/2 (17.28m); 3. Jeff Marsh, Minnesota, 54-8 1/4 (16.67m); 7. Adam Reed, Minnesota, 53-7 3/4 (16.35m).

Discus Throw Open: 5. Adam Reed, Minnesota, 172-6 (52.58m); 6. Chad Yenchesky, Minnesota, 168-0 (51.20m); 15. Jeff Marsh, Minnesota, 157-5 (47.98m).

Discus Throw Invite: 4. Jason Schlueter, Minnesota, 157-5 (47.98m).

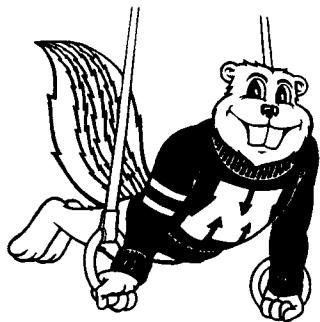
Javelin Throw Open: 2. Ben Jensen, Minnesota, 184-10 (56.34m); 4. Jon Anderson, Minnesota, 150-8 (45.92m).

1997 AUTOMATIC OUTDOOR QUALIFIERS:

Athlete	Event	Score	Meet
Vesa Rantanen	Pole Vault	18-5 1/4 (5.62)	4/4-5
Steffan Strand	High Jump	7-4 1/2 (2.25)	4/4-5

1997 PROVISIONAL OUTDOOR QUALIFIERS:

Athlete	Event	Score	Meet
Vesa Rantanen	Pole Vault	17-3 (5.26)	3/28-29
Chad Yenchesky	Shot Put	58-4 3/4 (17.8)	3/28-29
Jason Schlueter	Discus	191-0 (58.22)	4/4-5
Tye Harvey	Pole Vault	17-7 1/4 (5.37)	4/4-5
Chad Yenchesky	Shot Put	58-3 1/4 (17.76)	4/4-5
Rick Obleman	3,000 m Steeplechase	8:52.49	4/11-12
Chad Yenchesky	Shot Put	57-9 (17.60m)	4/11-12
Jason Schlueter	Discus	184-2 (56.14m)	4/11-12



GYMNASTICS

1997 GYMNASTICS SCHEDULE

DATE	MEET	PLACE	SCORE/TIME
Jan. 11	Alumni Meet (ex)	Sports Pavilion	L / 217.925
Jan. 18	Windy City Invite	Chicago, Ill.	7th/211.900
Jan. 31	Iowa	Iowa City, Iowa	L/223.875
Feb. 8	Michigan and Michigan State	Sports Pavilion	W/222.100
Feb. 15	Winter Cup	Battle Creek, Mich.	No team scores
Feb. 22	New Mexico and Santa Barbara	Albuquerque, N.M.	2nd/222.40
Mar. 1	Ohio State	Sports Pavilion	L/228.5-228.725
Mar. 9	Nebraska	Lincoln, Neb.	L/225.15-230.175
Mar. 22-23	Big Ten Champ.	Sports Pavilion	4th/227.45
Mar. 29	Illinois-Chicago	Chicago, Ill.	L/226.05-227.750
Apr. 5	NCAA Regional	West Point, N.Y.	5th/224.125
Apr. 17-19	NCAA Champ.	Iowa City, Iowa	7 p.m.

Bold indicates home meets

NCAA CHAMPIONSHIPS UP NEXT: Three Minnesota gymnasts will travel to the NCAA Championships in Iowa City, Iowa, on April 17-19.

Senior co-captain **FRANK TICKNOR** (Milwaukee, Wis.) tied for fourth on the vault with a career-high score of 9.800. Sophomore **JASON KROB** (St. Charles, Mo.) and junior **GEORGE BEATTY** (Aberdeen, N.J.) both advanced on the pommel horse. Krob took fifth with a score of 9.675, and Beatty placed eighth with a 9.625 on that event.

MINNESOTA FINISHES FIFTH AT EAST

REGIONAL: The University of Minnesota men's gymnastics team ended its season on April 5, finishing fifth at the NCAA East Regional in West Point, N.Y., with a team score of 224.125. Defending national champion Ohio State won the competition and advances to the NCAA Championships along with Iowa and Penn State.

GOLDEN GOPHERS RANKED 7TH:

The University of Minnesota men's gymnastics team moved up to 7th by regional qualifying score in the final NCAA National Ranking. This is the team's highest ranking of the season, surpassing the No. 8 ranking the team held in the March 24th poll and in the preseason coaches' poll. The Golden Gophers also finished ranked fourth in the Eastern Region. All seven teams in the Big Ten are ranked in the nation's top 20 and in the East Region's top 10.

NCAA Team National Rankings – March 31 (by regional qualifying average): 1. Ohio State; 2. Cal Berkeley; 3. Iowa; 4. Oklahoma; 5. Nebraska; 6. Penn State; 7.

Minnesota; 8. Illinois; 9. Illinois-Chicago; 10. New Mexico; 11. Michigan State; 12t. UMass, Stanford; 14. Brigham Young; 15. Temple; 16. Michigan; 17. Navy; 18. Syracuse; 19. William and Mary; 20. Army

NCAA East Region Team Rankings – March 31

(by regional qualifying average): 1. Ohio State; 2. Iowa; 3. Penn State; 4. **Minnesota**; 5. Illinois; 6. Illinois-Chicago; 7. Michigan State; 8. UMass; 9. Temple; 10. Michigan

WALL IS UM'S TOP RANKED GYMNAST: On the still rings, Heath Wall is tied for 14th in the nation and ninth in the Eastern Region in the final NCAA rankings. On the pommel horse, sophomore **JASON KROB** (St. Charles, Mo.) is tied for 15th in the nation, eighth in the region. Senior co-captain **FRANK TICKNOR** (Milwaukee, Wis.) is ranked 10th in the region on the rings as well. **GEORGE BEATTY** (Jr., Aberdeen, N.J.) is tied for 20th in the nation and 12th in the region on the pommel horse.

Ticknor is the 14th-ranked all-arounder in the nation and the eighth-ranked gymnast in the Eastern Region. Wall is the 15th-ranked all-arounder in the nation and 9th in the region.

MINNESOTA SEASON BESTS:

Team Score	228.500	vs. Ohio State 3/1/97
Floor Exercise	37.950	at Big Tens 3/22/97
Pommel Horse	38.550	vs. Ohio State 3/1/97
Still Rings	38.500	vs. Ohio State 3/1/97
Vault	38.350	at East Regional 4/5/97
Parallel Bars	38.200	at NM/UCSB 2/22
Horizontal Bar	37.950	vs. Mich/MSU 2/8
Floor Exercise	9.600	Frank Ticknor (at NM/UCSB)
Pommel Horse	9.825	Jason Krob (at Iowa)
Still Rings	9.750	Heath Wall (at NM/UCSB, vs. OSU) Frank Ticknor (vs. Ohio State)
Vault	9.700	Frank Ticknor (at East Regional)
Parallel Bars	9.750	George Beatty (vs. Ohio State)
Horizontal Bar	9.650	Heath Wall (vs. Ohio State) Dan Boots (vs. Ohio State)
All-Around	57.500	Heath Wall (vs. Ohio State)



GOLF

GOPHERS SEVENTH AT MARSHALL

INVITATIONAL: The Golden Gophers finished in a tie for seventh at the Marshall Invitational in Huntington, W. Va., last weekend. Minnesota fired a 301-299-296 for a three-round score of 896. Sophomore **BILL THOMPSON** (Wayzata, Minn.) led the team with a eighth-place finish which is a career high for him. He carded a score of 219 with rounds of 75, 71 and 73.

GOLFERS TAKE TWO WEEKS OFF: The University of Minnesota men's golf team will take two weeks off and prepare for the Kent Invitational on May 2-3 in Ravenna, Ohio. The tournament is very crucial to the team's NCAA Tournament chances with the District IV rankings coming out following that weekend.

GOLFERS RANKED 20TH IN LATEST POLL:

The University of Minnesota men's golf team is No. 20 in the latest Rolex Collegiate Rankings with 103.890 points. Ohio State, ranked No. 14 in the poll with 141.053 points, is the only other Big Ten team ranked higher than the Golden Gophers. The University of Nevada-Las Vegas is the top ranked team with 346.397 points.

ROLEX MEN'S TEAM RANKINGS

1. UNLV, 346.397; 2. Oklahoma State, 303.641; 3. TCU, 278.418; 4. Clemson, 226.506; 5. Southern California, 229.886; 6. North Carolina, 220.477; 7. New Mexico, 218.594; 8. Arizona, 217.189; 9. Arizona State, 205.357; 10. Wake Forest, 204.504; 11. Florida, 193.322; 12. East Tennessee State, 191.597; 13. Texas, 187.062; 14. Ohio State, 141.053; 15. Virginia, 136.882; 16. Auburn, 121.290; 17. Mississippi State, 120.429; 18. Georgia Tech, 119.991; 19. BYU, 104.309; 20. Minnesota, 103.890

MARSHALL INVITATIONAL RESULTS: Listed below are the final results from the Marshall Invitational.

Team Results


1. Northwestern, 289/286/293=868
2. Ohio State, 295/289/289=873
3. Indiana, 288/291/296=875
4. Miami of Ohio, 301/294/290=885
5. Michigan, 298/294/295=887
6. Kent, 297/299/296=892
7. Minnesota, 301/299/296=896
7. Eastern Kentucky, 296/304/296=896

9. Kentucky, 304/295/304=903
10. Toledo, 305/295/304=904
- Ball State, 299/305/300=904
12. Michigan State, 302/302/310=914
13. Marshall, 310/302/305=917
14. Louisville, 317/303/303=923
15. Wisconsin, 312/304/308=924
16. Illinois, 311/317/312=940
17. Ohio, 322/314/315=945
18. Murray St., 321/314/415=950

Individual Results (Top 10 plus Gophers)

1. Scott Rowe, NW, 69/67/74=210
2. Chris Wollman, OSU, 69/71/71=211
3. Don Padgett III, Indiana, 68/69/75=212
4. Randy Leen, Indiana, 72/74/70=216
5. Kyle Voska, Miami, 76/72/70=218
- Maarten van den Berg, Miami, 75/71/72=218
- Matt Seppanen, Northwestern, 73/73/72=218
8. Didier deVooght, OSU, 73/72/74=219
- Bill Thompson, Minn., 75/71/73=219
- Adam Anderson, Michigan, 73/73/73=219
- Other Gophers:** T15th, Mark Halverson, 75/75/72=222, T27, Rob Kerr, 75/77/73=225, T59th, 76/78/78=232, T73rd, 80/76/80=236

SPORTS NEWS



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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 14, 1997

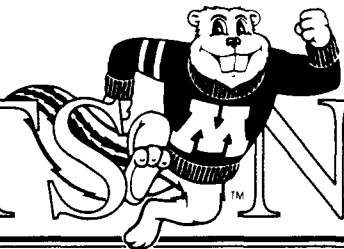
JAMES SUSPENDED INDEFINITELY; COUNSELING PROGRAM REQUIRED

Courtney James has been suspended indefinitely from the University of Minnesota basketball team, according to Director of Men's Athletics Mark Dienhart, until all of the legal proceedings surrounding the fifth degree assault complaint against James have been resolved. James will also be evaluated and placed in a counseling program immediately.

"The complaint against Courtney is a very serious matter and one that has us all concerned and disappointed," said Dienhart. "We will seek an immediate evaluation and appropriate counseling for Courtney but his suspension from participation in any and all team activities will stay in place until the legal proceedings surrounding the situation have come to a final resolution. Courtney's future in the program will be decided at that time."

Head men's basketball coach Clem Haskins agreed with the suspension and the placement of James in a counseling program. "Courtney has made progress in many ways since being at the University of Minnesota," said Haskins. "I'm upset and embarrassed that he should be in this type of a situation. People know what I stand for and what I expect of our team. Courtney has put his status on the team in jeopardy."

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA



SPORTS NEWS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 14, 1997

GREAT GOPHER SPORTS AUCTION SCHEDULED FOR SATURDAY

The annual Great Gopher Sports Auction will be held on Saturday, April 19 from 5 - 7 p.m. at Mariucci Arena. The event gives the public the opportunity to bid on many great professional and college sports items while contributing to the Men's Athletics Department Williams Fund.

Some of the items available at the auction include autographed Michael Jordan and Scottie Pippen jerseys, Super Bowl and Rose Bowl tickets, the opportunity to travel with Golden Gopher teams on road trips, tickets to the inaugural Big Ten men's postseason basketball tournament, Golden Gopher basketball, hockey, and football season tickets, autographed game-worn jerseys and equipment of Golden Gopher athletes, zamboni driving lessons, Williams Arena court time and Mariucci Arena ice time, and autographed items from Golden Gopher alumni such as Tom Lehman, Terry Steinbach, Paul Molitor, Neal Broten, Robb Stauber, and Brian Bonin.

Also available for kids is an opportunity to be a stick boy or girl at a Golden Gopher hockey game, a bat boy or girl at a Golden Gopher baseball game, or a court kid at a Golden Gopher basketball game.

The silent auction is scheduled for 5 - 6:30 p.m., with the live auction slated for 6:30 - 7 p.m. Please call the Williams Fund at (612) 625-1001 for more information.

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA



SPORTS NEWS

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For Immediate Release


April 15, 1997

MINNESOTA TO HOST DOUBLEHEADER AGAINST CREIGHTON

The University of Minnesota baseball team will host the Creighton Bluejays in a doubleheader on Wednesday, April 16 at 2:30 p.m. at Siebert Field.

The teams were originally scheduled for a single game at 3 p.m., but both teams lost games had games cancelled last week due to poor weather conditions and agreed on the extra game.

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

April 16, 1997

GOLDEN GOPHER BASEBALL RECEIVES COMMITMENT FROM TOP RECRUIT

The University of Minnesota baseball program has received a national letter of intent from shortstop Rick Brosseau of North Oaks, Minn.

Brosseau, a 5-11, 170-pounder from Hill-Murray High School in Maplewood, played with the powerful Tri-City Red Legion team. Brosseau, who bats left and throws right, is the brother of current Golden Gopher Matt Brosseau. His father, Frank, also played for the Golden Gophers in the late 60's and briefly for the Pittsburgh Pirates. He has displayed an strong arm and defensive skills and has the potential to be an excellent contact hitter, according to the Minnesota coaching staff.

"We are very pleased to bring a quality student-athlete like Rick to the program," said Assistant Head Baseball Coach Rob Fornasiere. "He has good skills and is from a solid family. We feel Rick will develop into a superb middle infielder at Minnesota."

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA



SPORTS NEWS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

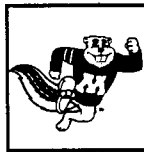
April 16, 1997

HASKINS' STATEMENT RELEASED

"I am deeply concerned and disappointed over the series of events that have resulted in the suspension of Courtney James from our basketball program. His future with the program is obviously in serious jeopardy.

I further regret that I have been unable to be in the Twin Cities the past few days, but the national signing and contact periods that we are currently in require me to be on the road recruiting. I firmly believe that we are doing everything possible to handle Courtney's situation departmentally and get him the type of counseling or therapy that he may need.

I was not aware of the recently reported incidents of harassing phone calls by Courtney and, although I was aware of allegations of domestic abuse prior to last Saturday's incident, I was also aware Courtney denied them and reached a mutually acceptable agreement with the individual involved. I hope that my trust in Courtney will prove justified but, regardless, I now feel the need to stand by him, get him any counseling help he needs and to see his current legal issues resolved. Once that is done I will meet with Mark Dienhart and decide Courtney's future, based upon what we learn in the weeks ahead."



GOLDEN GOPHER MEN'S ATHLETICS

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

April 21, 1997

This Week in Gopher Sports

Gopher Hotline

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

Monday, April 21:
Senior tennis player **Lars Hjarrand**

Tuesday, April 22:
Head track and field coach **Phil Lundin**

Wednesday, April 23:
Senior infielder **Eric Welter**

Thursday, April 24:
Freshman high jumper **Staffan Strand**

Friday, April 25:
Head tennis coach **David Geatz**

Saturday-Sunday, April 26-27:
Head football coach **Glen Mason** post-Spring Game comments

GET WIRED!

The U of M Men's Athletic Department is now on the Internet. The World Wide Web site contains press releases, statistics, rosters, schedules and much more. The Web pages can be accessed at:
<http://gophersports.umn.edu>

Tues.
April 22

• **Baseball** at Northern Iowa Panthers
Riverfront Stadium
Cedar Falls, Iowa
KSGS-950 AM, 2 p.m.

Wed.
April 23

• **Baseball** vs. Southwest State
Siebert Field
KSGS-950 AM, 6 p.m.

Thurs.
April 24

• **Tennis** at Big Ten Championships
East Lansing, Mich., TBD

Fri.
April 25

• **Baseball** vs. Illinois Fighting Illini
Siebert Field
KSGS-950 AM, 6:30 p.m.
• **Tennis** at Big Ten Championships
East Lansing, Mich., TBD
• **Track** at Drake Relays
Des Moines, Iowa, All Day

Sat.
April 26

• **Baseball** vs. Illinois Fighting Illini (2)
Siebert Field
KSGS-950 AM, 2 p.m.
Game 1- Midwest Sports Channel
• **Tennis** at Big Ten Championships
East Lansing, Mich., TBD
• **Track** at Drake Relays
Des Moines, Iowa, All Day

Sun.
April 27

• **Baseball** vs. Illinois Fighting Illini
Siebert Field
KSGS-950 AM, 1 p.m.
• **Tennis** at Big Ten Championships
East Lansing, Mich., TBD



TENNIS

NETTERS TRAVEL TO BIG TEN TOURNAMENT THIS WEEKEND:

The Golden Gophers (8-12, 4-4) will be back in competition this weekend as they travel to East Lansing, Mich., for the 1997 Big Ten Tournament. The four-day event (Thursday through Sunday) will be held at the MSU Tennis Facility on the campus of Michigan State University. Minnesota will be attempting to capture its fifth Big Ten crown in the last six seasons, as the Golden Gophers had won four straight titles from 1992-95 before Michigan wrestled the champion label from the Maroon and Gold last season.

FIRST OPPONENT—PURDUE: The No. 7 seed Golden Gophers will begin tournament play on Friday when they take on the No. 2 seed Purdue Boilermakers in the second quarterfinal matchup. Tournament action gets under way at 1 p.m., and the Golden Gophers' match should start at approximately 4 p.m.

SERIES VS. PURDUE: Minnesota holds a 32-5 all-time advantage over Purdue. The Boilermakers defeated the Golden Gophers in the only matchup this season by the score of 4-3 on Saturday.

MINNESOTA CLOSES OUT REGULAR SEASON WITH LOSSES TO BOILERMAKERS AND ILLINI:

The University of Minnesota men's tennis team (8-11 overall, 4-5 Big Ten) was defeated by Purdue (15-5 overall, 7-2 Big Ten) by the score of 4-3 on Saturday afternoon in a Big Ten conference dual match at West Lafayette, Ind.

The two teams split the six singles matches before the Boilermakers claimed all three doubles bouts to win the decisive point and the match. Senior **BEN GABLER** (Chambersburg, Pa.) and sophomores **TOM CHICOINE** (Neenah, Wis.) and **ADAM SELKIRK** (St. Charles, Mo.) all won matches in straight sets for the Golden Gophers. Number five singles proved to be the deciding factor in the match, as the Boilermakers' Greg Wessenberg edged Golden Gopher freshman **MARTIN MICHAELOWSKI** (7-6, 2-6, 6-4) in a tight, three-set contest.

Before Saturday's setback, the Golden Gophers had won the doubles point in their last five team contests and had claimed 13 of the last 15 doubles matches in team dual competition.

Saturday, April 19
West Lafayette, Ind.

PURDUE 4, MINNESOTA 3

Singles

Jamie Gordon (PU) def. Lars Hjarrand (MN) 6-3, 7-6
Ben Gabler (MN) def. Derek Myers (PU) 6-3, 6-4
Tom Chicoine (MN) def. Cris James (PU) 7-6, 6-1
Adam Selkirk (MN) def. Jerad Harbaugh (PU) 6-3, 7-6
Greg Wessenberg (PU) def. Martin Michaelowski (MN) 7-6, 2-6, 6-4
Bryan Harris (PU) def. Martin Kristoffersen (MN) 6-4, 6-7, 6-0

Doubles

James/Myers (PU) def. Gabler/Hjarrand (MN) 8-3
Gordon/Harbaugh (PU) def. Chicoine/Selkirk (MN) 8-4
Harris/Jason Smith (PU) def. Robin Rutili/Michalowski (MN) 8-6

The Golden Gophers (8-12 overall, 4-6 Big Ten) were defeated by Illinois (15-9 overall, 7-3 Big Ten) by the score of 5-1 on Sunday afternoon in a Big Ten conference dual match in Champaign, Ill.

The Fighting Illini dominated singles play in the match winning five of six duals, all in straight-set fashion. Minnesota's only point came at number five singles, where freshman **MARTIN MICHAELOWSKI** (Ottawa, Ontario, Canada) downed Illinois' Jakub Tepy in three sets (3-6, 7-6, 6-3). The Golden Gophers' number one doubles tandem of **LARS HJARRAND** (Oslo, Norway) and **BEN GABLER** (Chambersburg, Pa.) also pulled out an 8-4 win over Jerry Turek and Cary Franklin, but the doubles point was left undecided at one match each due to Minnesota's travel plans.

Sunday, April 20
Champaign, Ill.

ILLINOIS 5, MINNESOTA 1

Singles

Cary Franklin (ILL) def. Lars Hjarrand (MN) 7-5, 6-2
Gavin Sontag (ILL) def. Tom Chicoine (MN) 6-4, 6-1
Jerry Turek (ILL) def. Ben Gabler (MN) 6-4, 6-3
Oliver Freelove (ILL) def. Adam Selkirk (MN) 6-4, 6-3
Martin Michaelowski (MN) def. Jakub Tepy (ILL) 3-6, 7-6, 6-3
Jeff Laski (ILL) def. Martin Kristoffersen (MN) 6-4, 7-6

Doubles

Gabler/Hjarrand (MN) def. Turek/Franklin (ILL) 8-4
Chicoine/Selkirk (MN) vs. Snyder/Laski (ILL) did not finish
Freelove/Schwartz (ILL) def. Robin Rutili/Michaelowski (MN) 9-8

ON THE HORIZON: Depending on the outcome of this weekend's Big Ten Tournament, Minnesota may or may not have the opportunity to defend its NCAA Region IV Championship from a year ago. It appears that the Golden Gophers will need to win the conference tournament to secure bid into the six-team field. The regional will be held from May 9-11 on the campus of Notre Dame University in South Bend, Ind.



TRACK AND FIELD

1997 TRACK & FIELD SCHEDULE

Indoor Track & Field			
DATE	MEET	PLACE	RESULT/TIME
Jan. 4	Early Bird Open	UM Fieldhouse	No team scores
Jan. 11	Northwest Open	UM Fieldhouse	No team scores
Jan. 18	Badger Track Classic	Madison, Wis.	No team scores
Jan. 25	Minnesota Invite	UM Fieldhouse	No team scores
Manitoba, Drake, Marquette, Iowa			
Jan 31	Mercantile Bank Invite	Cedar Falls, Iowa	5th/37.25 pts.
Feb. 7-8	Iowa State Invitational	Ames, Iowa	No team scores
Feb. 14	Snowshoe Open	UM Fieldhouse	No team scores
Feb. 22-23	Big Ten Indoor Champ.	Iowa City, Iowa	3rd/83.33 pts.
Feb. 28	NCAA Qualifying Meet	Ames, Iowa	No team scores
Mar. 7-8	NCAA Indoor Champ.	Indianapolis, Ind.	T10th/16 pts.
Outdoor Track & Field			
Mar. 28-29	Raleigh Relays	Raleigh, N.C.	No team scores
Apr. 4-5	Texas Relays	Austin, Texas	No team scores
Apr. 11-12	Sea Ray Relays	Knoxville, Tenn.	No team scores
Apr. 19	Hawkeye Invitational/ Mount San Antonio Relays	Iowa City, Iowa Walnut, Calif.	No team scores
Apr. 25-26	Drake Relays	Des Moines, Iowa	TBA
May 3	Gold Country Classic	Bierman Field	TBA
May 4	Jesse Owens	Columbus, Ohio	TBA
May 10	Minnesota Invitational	Bierman Field	9 a.m.
May 17	Minnesota Last Chance	Bierman Field	TBA
May 23-24	Big Ten Outdoor Champ.	Champaign, Ill.	TBA
June 4-7	NCAA Outdoor Champ.	Bloomington, Ind.	TBA

NEXT: The Minnesota men's track and field team competes at the Drake Relays on April 25-26 in Des Moines, Iowa.

JENSEN BREAKS SCHOOL RECORD, AUTOMATICALLY QUALIFIES FOR NCAAs AT MT. SAC RELAYS:

Minnesota sophomore **BENJAMIN JENSEN** (Mandal, Norway) broke an outdoor school record and automatically qualified for the NCAA meet with 7,669 points in the decathlon last Friday at the Mt. Sac Relays in Walnut, Calif. Jensen's point total ranks No. 2 all-time in the Big Ten. He broke his own school record of 7,590 points which he set last year.

HARVEY AUTOMATICALLY QUALIFIES FOR NCAAs AT MT. SAC RELAYS IN POLE VAULT:

Senior **TYE HARVEY** (Jamestown, Calif.) finished seventh and automatically qualified for the NCAA meet with a vault of 18-1 1/4 (5.52m) in the pole vault last weekend at the Mt. Sac Relays in Walnut, Calif. Harvey is the fourth Golden Gopher to automatically qualify for the NCAA meet.

ANDERSON PACES TEAM AT IOWA INVITE:

Freshman **CHRIS ANDERSON** (Chisago City, Minn.) placed second in the 3,000 meter run with a time of 8:41.5 to lead the

Golden Gophers at Saturday's Hawkeye Invitational in Iowa City, Iowa.

4 x 400 METER RELAY TEAM FINISHES

SECOND AT HAWKEYE INVITE: Minnesota's 4 x 400 meter relay team finished second at the Iowa Invitational in Iowa City, Iowa on Saturday with a clocking of 3:18.23.

There were no team points kept in the competition.

RESULTS FROM THE MT. SAC RELAYS:

Decathlon: 1. Benjamin Jensen, Minn., 7,669 points.

Pole Vault: 7. Tye Harvey, Minn., 18-1 1/4 (5.52m)

Shot Put: 7. Chad Yenchesky, Minn., 55-7 1/2 (16.95m)

Discus: 12. Jason Schlueter, Minn., 178-6 (54.40m)

RESULTS FROM THE HAWKEYES INVITE:

100m Dash: 6. Scott Beadle, Minnesota, 10.8.

110m Hurdles: 3. Aaron Wheatcraft, Minn., 14.90.

200m Dash: 6. Scott Beadle, Minnesota, 21.96; 8. Adam

Freed, Minnesota, 22.21.

800m Run: 3. Sam Severin, Minnesota, 1:58.41.

3,000m Run: 2. Chris Anderson, Minnesota, 8:41.5; 3. Todd Landraff, Minnesota, 8:43.6; 5. Tony Riter, Minnesota, 8:51.3.

4 x 400 Relay: 2. Minnesota, 3:18.23.

Discus: 6. Justin Asher, Minn., 143-5 (43.72m).

Shot Put: 3. Adam Reed, Minn., 54-7 1/2 (16.65m); 5. Justin

Asher, Minn., 52-10 (16.10m)

1997 AUTOMATIC OUTDOOR QUALIFIERS:

Athlete	Event	Score	Meet
Vesa Rantanen	Pole Vault	18-5 1/4 (5.62)	4/4-5
Staffan Strand	High Jump	7-4 1/2 (2.25)	4/4-5
Benjamin Jensen	Decathlon	7,669 points	4/18
Tye Harvey	Pole Vault	18-1 1/4	4/20

1997 MINNESOTA PROVISIONAL OUTDOOR QUALIFIERS:

Athlete	Event	Score	Meet
Vesa Rantanen	Pole Vault	17-3 (5.26)	3/28-29
Chad Yenchesky	Shot Put	58-4 3/4 (17.8)	3/28-29
Jason Schlueter	Discus	191-0 (58.22)	4/4-5
Tye Harvey	Pole Vault	17-7 1/4 (5.37)	4/4-5
Chad Yenchesky	Shot Put	58-3 1/4 (17.76)	4/4-5
Rick Obleman	3,000 Meter Steeplechase	8:52.49	4/11-12
Chad Yenchesky	Shot Put	57-9 (17.60)	4/11-12
Jason Schlueter	Discus	184-2 (56.14)	4/11-12



GYMNASTICS

1997 GYMNASTICS SCHEDULE

DATE	MEET	PLACE	SCORE/TIME
Jan. 11	Alumni Meet (ex)	Sports Pavilion	L / 217.925
Jan. 18	Windy City Invite	Chicago, Ill.	7th/211.900
Jan. 31	Iowa	Iowa City, Iowa	L/223.875
Feb. 8	Michigan and Michigan State	Sports Pavilion	W/222.100
Feb. 15	Winter Cup	Battle Creek, Mich.	No team scores
Feb. 22	New Mexico and Santa Barbara	Albuquerque, N.M.	2nd/222.40
Mar. 1	Ohio State	Sports Pavilion	L/228.5-228.725
Mar. 9	Nebraska	Lincoln, Neb.	L/225.15-230.175
Mar. 22-23	Big Ten Champ.	Sports Pavilion	4th/227.45
Mar. 29	Illinois-Chicago	Chicago, Ill.	L/226.05-227.750
Apr. 5	NCAA Regional	West Point, N.Y.	5th/224.125
Apr. 17-19	NCAA Champ.	Iowa City, Iowa	No team results

Bold indicates home meets

GYMNASTS FINISH SEASON AT NCAAS: Three Minnesota gymnasts finished the 1997 season at the NCAA Championships in Iowa City, Iowa, on Thursday, April 17.

Senior co-captain **FRANK TICKNOR** (Milwaukee, Wis.), sophomore **JASON KROB** (St. Charles, Mo.) and junior **GEORGE BEATTY** (Aberdeen, N.J.) all competed in the event preliminaries but did not advance to the event finals.

Ticknor scored a 9.350 on the vault, Beatty scored a 9.650 on the pommel horse and Krob turned in a 9.625 on the pommel horse. Their scores were not good enough to advance them to the individual event finals on Saturday. The top eight individuals in each event qualified for the event finals.

GOLDEN GOPHERS RANKED 7TH: The University of Minnesota men's gymnastics team moved up to seventh by regional qualifying score in the final NCAA National Ranking. This is the team's highest ranking of the season, surpassing the No. 8 ranking the team held in the March 24th poll and in the preseason coaches' poll. The Golden Gophers ranked fourth in the Eastern Region. All seven teams in the Big Ten are ranked in the nation's top 20 and in the region's top 10.

NCAA Team National Rankings – March 31 (by regional qualifying average): 1. Ohio State; 2. Cal Berkeley; 3. Iowa; 4. Oklahoma; 5. Nebraska; 6. Penn State; 7. **Minnesota**; 8. Illinois; 9. Illinois-Chicago; 10. New Mexico; 11. Michigan State; 12t. UMass, Stanford; 14. Brigham Young; 15. Temple; 16. Michigan; 17. Navy; 18. Syracuse; 19. William and Mary; 20. Army

NCAA East Region Team Rankings – March 31 (by regional qualifying average): 1. Ohio State; 2. Iowa; 3. Penn State; 4. **Minnesota**; 5. Illinois; 6. Illinois-Chicago; 7. Michigan State; 8. UMass; 9. Temple; 10. Michigan

WALL IS UM'S TOP RANKED GYMNAST: On the still rings, Heath Wall tied for 14th in the nation and ninth in the Eastern Region in the final NCAA rankings. On the pommel horse, sophomore **JASON KROB** (St. Charles, Mo.) tied for 15th in the nation, eighth in the region. Senior co-captain **FRANK TICKNOR** (Milwaukee, Wis.) ranked 10th in the region on the rings as well. **GEORGE BEATTY** (Jr., Aberdeen, N.J.) tied for 20th in the nation and 12th in the region on the pommel horse.

Ticknor finished as the 14th-ranked all-arounder in the nation and the eighth-ranked gymnast in the Eastern Region. Wall was the 15th-ranked all-arounder in the nation and 9th in the region.

MINNESOTA SEASON BESTS:

Team Score	228.500	vs. Ohio State 3/1/97
Floor Exercise	37.950	at Big Tens 3/22/97
Pommel Horse	38.550	vs. Ohio State 3/1/97
Still Rings	38.500	vs. Ohio State 3/1/97
Vault	38.350	at East Regional 4/5/97
Parallel Bars	38.200	at NM/UCSB 2/22
Horizontal Bar	37.950	vs. Mich/MSU 2/8

Floor Exercise	9.600	Frank Ticknor (at NM/UCSB)
Pommel Horse	9.825	Jason Krob (at Iowa)
Still Rings	9.750	Heath Wall (at NM/UCSB, vs. OSU) Frank Ticknor (vs. Ohio State)
Vault	9.700	Frank Ticknor (at East Regional)
Parallel Bars	9.750	George Beatty (vs. Ohio State)
Horizontal Bar	9.650	Heath Wall (vs. Ohio State) Dan Boots (vs. Ohio State)
All-Around	57.500	Heath Wall (vs. Ohio State)

NCAA Championships — Event Preliminaries
Iowa City, Iowa – April 17

Floor Exercise: 1. Brian Hamilton (Iowa) 9.875; 2t. Andy Howard (Okla.) 9.850; 2t. Jeremy Killen (Okla.) 9.850

Pommel Horse: 1t. Drew Durbin (Ohio State) 9.825; 1t. K. Schiess (Group 1) 9.825; 3t. Blaine Wilson (Ohio State) 9.800; 3t. Marshall Nelson (Group 3) 9.800; **16t. George Beatty (Minn.) 9.650; 21t. Jason Krob (Minn.) 9.625**

Still Rings: 1. Dan Fink (Oklahoma) 9.875; 2. Victor Prisk (Michigan St.) 9.850; 3t. Jerebecherski (Cal.) 9.825; 3t. Blaine Wilson (Ohio State) 9.825; 3t. Lateef Crowder (Group 1) 9.825

Vault: 1. Blaine Wilson (Ohio St.) 9.850; 2t. Marshall Nelson (Group 2) 9.775; 2t. Matt Tucker (Group 4) 9.775; 2t. Travis Romagnoli (Ill.) 9.775; **40t. Frank Ticknor (Minn.) 9.350**

Horizontal Bar: 1. Marshall Nelson 9.8 (Group 2); 2. Trent Wells 9.850 (California) 3. Jerebecherski 9.825 (California)

Parallel Bars Standings:

1. Greg McGlaun 9.800 (Mich.); 2t. Oleg Kosyak 9.775 (Cal.)
2t. David Kruse 9.775 (Cal.); 2t. Travis Romagnoli 9.775 (Ill.)



GOLF

GOLFERS TAKE TWO WEEKS OFF: The University of Minnesota men's golf team will take two weeks off and prepare for the Kent Invitational on May 2-3 in Ravenna, Ohio. The tournament is very crucial to the team's NCAA Tournament chances with the District IV rankings coming out following that weekend.

GOLFERS RANKED 20TH IN LATEST POLL:

The University of Minnesota men's golf team is No. 20 in the latest Rolex Collegiate Rankings with 103.890 points. Ohio State, ranked No. 14 in the poll with 141.053 points, is the only other Big Ten team ranked higher than the Golden Gophers. The University of Nevada-Las Vegas is the top ranked team with 346.397 points.

ROLEX MEN'S TEAM RANKINGS

1. UNLV, 346.397; 2. Oklahoma State, 303.641; 3. TCU, 278.418; 4. Clemson, 226.506; 5. Southern California, 229.886; 6. North Carolina, 220.477; 7. New Mexico, 218.594; 8. Arizona, 217.189; 9. Arizona State, 205.357; 10. Wake Forest, 204.504; 11. Florida, 193.322; 12. East Tennessee State, 191.597; 13. Texas, 187.062; 14. Ohio State, 141.053; 15. Virginia, 136.882; 16. Auburn, 121.290; 17. Mississippi State, 120.429; 18. Georgia Tech, 119.991; 19. BYU, 104.309; 20. Minnesota, 103.890