

GOPHER BASKETBALL 2008.09



Tubbytown

POP. 14,625





Minnesota Basketball 2008-09

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Quick Facts

UNIVERSITY INFORMATION

Location: Minneapolis, Minn.
Enrollment: 50,883
Founded: 1851
Colors: Maroon & Gold
Conference: Big Ten
Mascot: Goldy Gopher
University President: Robert H. Bruininks
Faculty Athletics Representative: Dr. Linda Brady
Director of Athletics: Joel Maturi

COACHING STAFF

Head Coach: Orlando "Tubby" Smith [High Point, 1973]
Career Record: 407-159 [17 seasons]
Record at Minnesota: 20-14 [second season]
Associate Head Coach: Ron Jirsa [Gettysburg, 1981]
Assistant Coaches:

Vince Taylor [Duke, 1982]
 Saul Smith [Kentucky, 2001]

Director of Basketball Operations: Joe Esposito [Marist, 1988]
Strength and Conditioning Coach: Cal Dietz
Athletic Trainer: Roger Schipper

Basketball Office Phone: (612) 625-3085
Basketball Office Fax: (612) 626-8937

TEAM INFORMATION

Lettermen Returning/Lost: 8/4
Starters Returning/Lost: 2/3
2007-08 Overall Record: 20-14 (Home: 12-5 • Away: 4-8 • Neutral: 4-1)
2007-08 Big Ten Record: 8-10 (6th)
2008 Postseason: NIT First Round/Lost to Maryland (58-68)

First Season of Competition: 1895

Arena/Year Opened: Williams Arena [14,625/1928]
Arena Press Row Phone: (612) 626-1308
Arena Manager: Mike Dale

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To serve as a window to the University, in an environment of integrity and equity, that enables student-athletes to achieve excellence in their academic and athletic pursuits.



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Season Preview



Damian Johnson

After an 11-win turnaround in Tubby Smith's first season at the helm, the Gophers are hungry for more in 2008-09.

Tubby Smith's inaugural season at the helm of the Minnesota men's basketball program couldn't have gone much better. In Smith's first season in Minneapolis, the future Hall of Fame coach quickly brought a winning culture back to Gold Country by guiding the Golden Gophers to a 20-14 record and a subsequent bid to the National Invitational Tournament.

From day one under Smith's direction the maroon and gold found success, jumping out to a 10-2 record in non-conference play. Minnesota went on to win eight regular season Big Ten games including a win over Ohio State on Senior Day. But it was the Big Ten Tournament in Indianapolis that highlighted Minnesota's season. Following an opening-round win over 11th-seeded Northwestern, the Gophers challenged hometown favorite, third-seeded Indiana, in the second round of the conference tourney. Trailing by one to the 22nd-ranked Hoosiers with 1.5 seconds left, Travis Busch threw a dead-on, length-of-

the-court pass to Blake Hofferbar who caught the ball, spun away from his defender and swished a shot into Minnesota's basket as time expired to give the Gophers one of the most thrilling victories in program history.

Minnesota's season ended in a first round NIT loss to Maryland, but the winning foundation clearly had already been built by Smith and his staff. After all, the Gophers' second 20-win season since 1993 came on the heels of a program-worst 9-22 campaign in 2006-07; making Minnesota's one-year turnaround the second biggest in Division I NCAA men's basketball.



Al Nolen

Fresh off the program-rejuvenating season, Minnesota has high expectations for the 2008-09 campaign – and rightfully so. Despite the departures of its three top scorers to graduation – Lawrence McKenzie, Dan Coleman and Spencer Tollackson – the future looks brighter than ever in Gold Country. With eight returning players from last year's roster and the addition of five talented newcomers from what has been heralded as a Top 25 recruiting class, Minnesota believes it has the talent to improve upon its sixth-place finish in the Big Ten a season ago.



Blake Hofferbar



Returning Breakdown

Letterwinners Ret.	Ht.	Wt.	Cl.	Pos.	ppg	rpg	apg	mpg	FG%	Other
G 0 Al Nolen	6-1	180	So.	G	4.3	2.6	3.5	22.6	.327	1.9 spg
G 3 Kevin Payton	6-5	215	Jr.	G	1.1	0.8	1.3	9.9	.270	0.5 spg
G/F 4 Travis Busch	6-4	220	Jr.	G/F	1.1	0.7	0.2	4.8	.250	.800 FT%
C 11 Jonathan Williams	6-9	285	Sr.	C	3.0	2.5	0.5	13.1	.456	0.7 bpg
G 20 Lawrence Westbrook	6-0	195	Jr.	G	8.5	3.3	2.4	23.5	.420	.798 FT%
G 24 Blake Hofferbar	6-4	200	So.	G	8.4	2.9	1.1	20.2	.436	.427 3-PT%
F 33 Jamal Abu-Shamala	6-5	210	Sr.	G/F	3.4	1.8	0.8	13.2	.379	.739 FT%
F 34 Damian Johnson	6-7	195	Jr.	F	7.1	4.7	1.3	22.6	.484	1.4 bpg

Key Newcomers	Ht.	Wt.	Cl.	Pos.	ppg	rpg	last school
Devron Bostick	6-5	210	Jr.	18.2	4.9	3.2 apg	Southwestern Illinois CC
Paul Carter	6-8	185	So.	11.7	8.7	1.1 bpg	Missouri State-West Plains
Devoe Joseph	6-3	170	Fr.	24.0	6.0	5.0 apg	Pickering HS
Colton Iverson	6-10	235	Fr.	17.9	12.3	2.7 bpg	Yankton HS
Ralph Sampson III	6-11	220	Fr.	19.6	10.3	7.0 bpg	Northview HS

Letterwinners Lost	Ht.	Wt.	Cl.	Pos.	ppg	rpg	apg	mpg	FG%	Other
G 1 Lawrence McKenzie	6-2	180	Sr.	G	11.8	2.3	2.6	26.9	.419	.429 3-PT%
F 13 Dan Coleman	6-9	225	Sr.	F	11.6	5.8	0.8	27.0	.469	1.2 bpg
C 50 Spencer Tollackson	6-9	260	Sr.	C	9.3	3.7	1.2	22.3	.508	0.8 spg

Smith has recorded 15-straight 20-win seasons – the longest active streak in the nation – and his teams have reached the postseason every year since 1994. One year wiser in Smith's offensive sets and defensive schemes, if Minnesota builds chemistry and confidence in its non-conference schedule and takes care of business in the Big Ten season, the Gophers could dance their way into the NCAA Tournament for the first time since 2005.



Jamal Abu-Shamala

touted freshman Devoe Joseph out of Canada is also expected to find time in the rotation.

• Small Forward

The small forward position is loaded with offensively and defensively gifted players. Two junior college transfers – Devron Bostick and Paul Carter – are expected to upgrade Minnesota's small forward position. Bostick, the reigning NJCAA Player of the Year, showed his great scoring knack by averaging 18.2 points per game last season at Southwestern Illinois Community College. Carter, a lengthy 6-8 forward from Missouri State-West Plains, is expected to help clean up the glass after averaging 8.7 rebounds last season for the Grizzlies.

Returning after a summer competing in international competition as part of the Jordanian National Team is senior Jamal Abu-Shamala. Abu-Shamala started 19 games last season and the 6-6 sharpshooter has the potential to get his jumper off from anywhere at anytime. A team co-captain, Abu-Shamala will be expected to be an on and off the court leader for the young Gophers. Junior Travis Busch, a former Minnesota Mr. Basketball award winner, is also expected to contribute after a strong summer in the Howard Pulley Summer League.

• Power Forward

Minnesota plans on replacing the programs' second-leading scorer and last season's 34-game starter Dan Coleman, with a pair of dynamic players. Damian Johnson, the team's defensive player of the year last season, is primed to take on an even bigger role in the post during his junior campaign. The Thibodaux, La. native finished the 07-08 season as the team-leader in blocks (46) and second in rebounding (4.7 rpg) and steals (1.7 spg). Joining Johnson at the "four" is freshman Ralph Sampson. Following a monstrous senior season stat line of 19.6 points, 10.3 rebounds and seven blocks per game for Northview High School, the big man from Duluth, Georgia is expected to make an immediate impact.

• Center

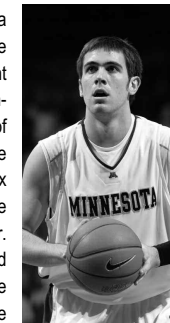
Senior Jonathan Williams and freshman Colton Iverson will man the five spot for the Gophers this season. The veteran Williams, a co-captain with Abu-Shamala, is a physical presence who should anchor the Gophers defense in the paint.

• Point Guard

In only his second season as a Gopher, sophomore Al Nolen will be asked to carry a shoulder of the point guard duties after an impressive freshman campaign. With the graduation of All-Big Ten selection Lawrence McKenzie, Nolen, who started six games as a freshman, will be Minnesota's primary ballhandler. Juniors Lawrence Westbrook and Kevin Payton, sophomore Blake Hofferbar and freshman Devoe Joseph can also command the offense when need be.

• Shooting Guard

Arguably Minnesota's deepest position, the shooting guard spot features many lethal threats, from long-range shooters to straight-to-the-rim-slashers. Versatile guard Lawrence Westbrook started all 34 games for the Gophers in his sophomore campaign, averaging 8.5 points in 23.5 minutes of work, and will be counted on to supply the same consistent production in 08-09. Sophomore Blake Hofferbar, fresh off a summer trip to the ESPY's for his miracle buzzer-beating shot, also returns. The Big Ten miracle-man should have no trouble adjusting to the new college three-point line after shooting 43 percent (seventh-highest in the Big Ten) from downtown during his first year as a Gopher. Highly-



Travis Busch



Lawrence Westbrook



Kevin Payton



Jon Williams



Adding size up front is 6-10 freshman Colton Iverson. The heavily-touted Iverson is a bruiser and should bring added toughness, rebounding and all-around scrappy play.

• **Bench**

Deep at a variety of positions, chances are Tubby Smith will be diving into his bench quite often this season. Minnesota trotted out a variety of starting lineups last season and Smith, at many times, substituted five men at a time, a strategy that is expected again in 08-09. The Gophers' bench outscored their opponents' bench in 26 of 34 games (780-517).

• **Schedule**

Challenges await the Gophers early and often at the start of the 2008-09 campaign. On Dec. 2 Minnesota welcomes the University of Virginia to Williams Arena to partake in the Big Ten/ACC Challenge. Rounding off Minnesota's non-conference schedule is a meeting with Rick Pitino's Louisville Cardinals in the Stadium Shootout in Glendale, Arizona (Dec. 20). Minnesota opens the regular season with the NABC Classic at Williams Arena from Nov. 14-16, marking the first time Minnesota has hosted a tournament at Williams Arena since the early 1980s when The Barn played host to the annual Pillsbury Classic. The NABC Classic includes Georgia State, Bowling Green and Concordia-St. Paul. A road game at Colorado State follows the Classic before the Gophers play five straight games at home against Eastern Washington, North Dakota State, Virginia, Cornell and South Dakota State. Following the trip to Arizona, the Gophers close non-conference action with Southeastern Louisiana and Tubby Smith's alma mater, High Point University.

The Gophers jump right into the fire of the Big Ten this season when they open conference play on New Year's Eve (Dec. 31) with a meeting against Tom Izzo's Michigan State Spartans at The Barn. Following a tough stretch with four of five games on the back end of the Big Ten schedule, the Gophers close the regular season with three of the last four conference tilts at home including the final two against Wisconsin and Michigan. The Big Ten Tournament returns to Consecro Fieldhouse in Indianapolis, Ind. again this season.

2008-09 Schedule

Day	Date	Opponent	Time	TV
Mon.	Nov. 3	ST. CLOUD STATE (exh.)	7:00 p.m.	bigtennetwork.com
Thu.	Nov. 6	NORTHERN STATE (exh.)	7:00 p.m.	bigtennetwork.com
Fri.-Sun.	Nov. 14-16	NABC CLASSIC (WILLIAMS ARENA)		
Fri.	Nov. 14	CONCORDIA-ST. PAUL	8:00 p.m.	bigtennetwork.com
Sat.	Nov. 15	BOWLING GREEN	8:00 p.m.	bigtennetwork.com
Sun.	Nov. 16	GEORGIA STATE	6:00 p.m.	bigtennetwork.com
Sat.	Nov. 22	at Colorado State	9:30 p.m.	The Mountain
Wed.	Nov. 26	EASTERN WASHINGTON	7:30 p.m.	Big Ten Network
Sat.	Nov. 29	NORTH DAKOTA STATE	1:00 p.m.	Big Ten Network
Tue.	Dec. 2	VIRGINIA*	8:30 p.m.	ESPN2
Sat.	Dec. 6	CORNELL	1:00 p.m.	ESPN360
Wed.	Dec. 10	SOUTH DAKOTA STATE	8:00 p.m.	Big Ten Network
Sat.	Dec. 20	vs. Louisville**	1:00 p.m.	Fox Sports Net
Tue.	Dec. 23	SOUTHEASTERN LOUISIANA	8:00 p.m.	ESPNU
Sun.	Dec. 28	HIGH POINT	6:00 p.m.	ESPNU
Wed.	Dec. 31	MICHIGAN STATE	5:00 p.m.	Big Ten Network
Sat.	Jan. 3	OHIO STATE	11:00 a.m.	Big Ten Network
Thu.	Jan. 8	at Iowa	6:00 p.m.	ESPN2
Sun.	Jan. 11	PENN STATE	1 or 2:30 p.m.	Big Ten Network
Thu.	Jan. 15	at Wisconsin	8:00 p.m.	Big Ten Network
Sun.	Jan. 18	at Northwestern	1:00 p.m.	Big Ten Network
Thu.	Jan. 22	PURDUE	6:00 p.m.	ESPN or ESPN2
Sun.	Jan. 25	at Indiana	11:00 a.m.	Big Ten Network
Thu.	Jan. 29	ILLINOIS	8:00 p.m.	Big Ten Network
Wed.	Feb. 4	at Michigan State	7:30 p.m.	Big Ten Network
Sat.	Feb. 7	at Ohio State	7:00 p.m.	Big Ten Network
Tue.	Feb. 10	INDIANA	8:00 p.m.	Big Ten Network
Sat.	Feb. 14	at Penn State	12:30 p.m.	Big Ten Network
Thu.	Feb. 19	at Michigan	6:00 p.m.	Big Ten Network
Sun.	Feb. 22	NORTHWESTERN	2 or 6:00 p.m.	Big Ten Network
Thu.	Feb. 26	at Illinois	6:00 p.m.	Big Ten Network
Mar. 3, 4 or 5		WISCONSIN	TBD	ESPN, ESPN2 or BTN
Mar., 7 or 8		MICHIGAN	TBD	BTN, CBS or ESPN
Thu.-Sun.	Mar. 12-15	Big Ten Tournament (Indianapolis, Ind.)		
Thu.-Sun.	Mar. 19-22	NCAA First/Second Rounds		
Thu.-Sun.	Mar. 26-29	NCAA Regionals		
Sat., Mon.	Apr. 4&6	NCAA Final Four		

* BigTen/ACC Challenge

** Stadium Shootout at University of Phoenix Stadium (Glendale, Arizona)

Home games in bold. All times Central. Times and Dates subject to change.



2008-09 Minnesota Basketball Roster

ALPHABETICAL ROSTER

NO.	NAME	POS	HT	WT	YR./ELIG	HOMETOWN (LAST SCHOOL/HIGH SCHOOL)
33	Jamal Abu-Shamala***	G/F	6-5	210	Sr./Sr.	Shakopee, Minn. (Shakopee HS)
22	Devron Bostick	G	6-5	210	Jr./Jr.	Racine, Wis. (Southwestern Illinois/St. Catherine's HS)
4	Travis Busch*	G/F	6-4	220	Sr./Jr.	St. Paul, Minn. (Mounds View HS)
1	Paul Carter	F	6-8	185	Jr./So.	Little Rock, Ark. (Missouri State-West Plains/Little Rock Mills HS)
24	Blake Hofferbar*	G	6-4	200	So./So.	Minnetonka, Minn. (Hopkins HS)
45	Colton Iverson	F/C	6-10	235	Fr./Fr.	Yankton, S.D. (Yankton HS)
34	Damian Johnson**	F	6-7	195	Sr./Jr.	Thibodaux, La. (Thibodaux HS)
5	Devoe Joseph	G	6-3	170	Fr./Fr.	Ajax, Ontario (Pickering HS)
0	Al Nolen*	G	6-1	180	So./So.	Minneapolis, Minn. (Patrick Henry HS)
3	Kevin Payton**	G	6-5	215	Sr./Jr.	Camden, N.J. (Camden HS)
50	Ralph Sampson III	F/C	6-11	220	Fr./Fr.	Duluth, Ga. (Northview HS)
20	Lawrence Westbrook**	G	6-0	195	Jr./Jr.	Chandler, Ariz. (Winchendon Prep)
11	Jonathan Williams***	C	6-9	285	Sr.-5/Sr.	St. Cloud, Minn. (Notre Dame Prep/St. Cloud Apollo HS)

NUMERICAL ROSTER

NO.	NAME	POS	HT	WT	YR./ELIG	HOMETOWN (LAST SCHOOL/HIGH SCHOOL)
0	Al Nolen*	G	6-1	180	So./So.	Minneapolis, Minn. (Patrick Henry HS)
1	Paul Carter	F	6-8	185	Jr./So.	Little Rock, Ark. (Missouri State-West Plains/Little Rock Mills HS)
3	Kevin Payton**	G	6-5	215	Sr./Jr.	Camden, N.J. (Camden HS)
4	Travis Busch*	G/F	6-4	220	Sr./Jr.	St. Paul, Minn. (Mounds View HS)
5	Devoe Joseph	G	6-3	170	Fr./Fr.	Ajax, Ontario (Pickering HS)
11	Jonathan Williams***	C	6-9	285	Sr.-5/Sr.	St. Cloud, Minn. (Notre Dame Prep/St. Cloud Apollo HS)
20	Lawrence Westbrook**	G	6-0	195	Jr./Jr.	Chandler, Ariz. (Winchendon Prep)
22	Devron Bostick	G	6-5	210	Jr./Jr.	Racine, Wis. (Southwestern Illinois/St. Catherine's HS)
24	Blake Hofferbar*	G	6-4	200	So./So.	Minnetonka, Minn. (Hopkins HS)
33	Jamal Abu-Shamala***	G/F	6-5	210	Sr./Sr.	Shakopee, Minn. (Shakopee HS)
34	Damian Johnson**	F	6-7	195	Sr./Jr.	Thibodaux, La. (Thibodaux HS)
45	Colton Iverson	F/C	6-10	235	Fr./Fr.	Yankton, S.D. (Yankton HS)
50	Ralph Sampson III	F/C	6-11	220	Fr./Fr.	Duluth, Ga. (Northview HS)

* Number of letters earned

Head Coach: Tubby Smith

Associate Head Coach: Ron Jirsa

Assistant Coaches: Saul Smith, Vince Taylor

Director of Basketball Operations: Joe Esposito

ROSTER BY CLASS

Seniors (2)
Jamal Abu-Shamala
Jonathan Williams

Juniors (5)
Devron Bostick
Travis Busch
Damian Johnson
Kevin Payton
Lawrence Westbrook

Sophomores (3)
Paul Carter
Blake Hofferbar
Al Nolen

Freshmen (3)
Colton Iverson
Devoe Joseph
Ralph Sampson III

ROSTER BY REGION

Minnesota (5)
Jamal Abu-Shamala
Travis Busch
Blake Hofferbar
Al Nolen
Jonathan Williams

Arizona (1)
Lawrence Westbrook

Arkansas (1)
Paul Carter

Georgia (1)
Ralph Sampson III

Louisiana (1)
Damian Johnson

New Jersey (1)
Kevin Payton

South Dakota (1)
Colton Iverson

Wisconsin (1)
Devron Bostick

Ontario, Canada (1)
Devoe Joseph

ROSTER BY HEIGHT

6-11
Ralph Sampson III

6-10
Colton Iverson

6-9
Jonathan Williams

6-8
Paul Carter

6-7
Damian Johnson

6-5
Jamal Abu-Shamala
Devron Bostick
Kevin Payton

6-4
Travis Busch
Blake Hofferbar

6-3
Devoe Joseph

6-1
Al Nolen

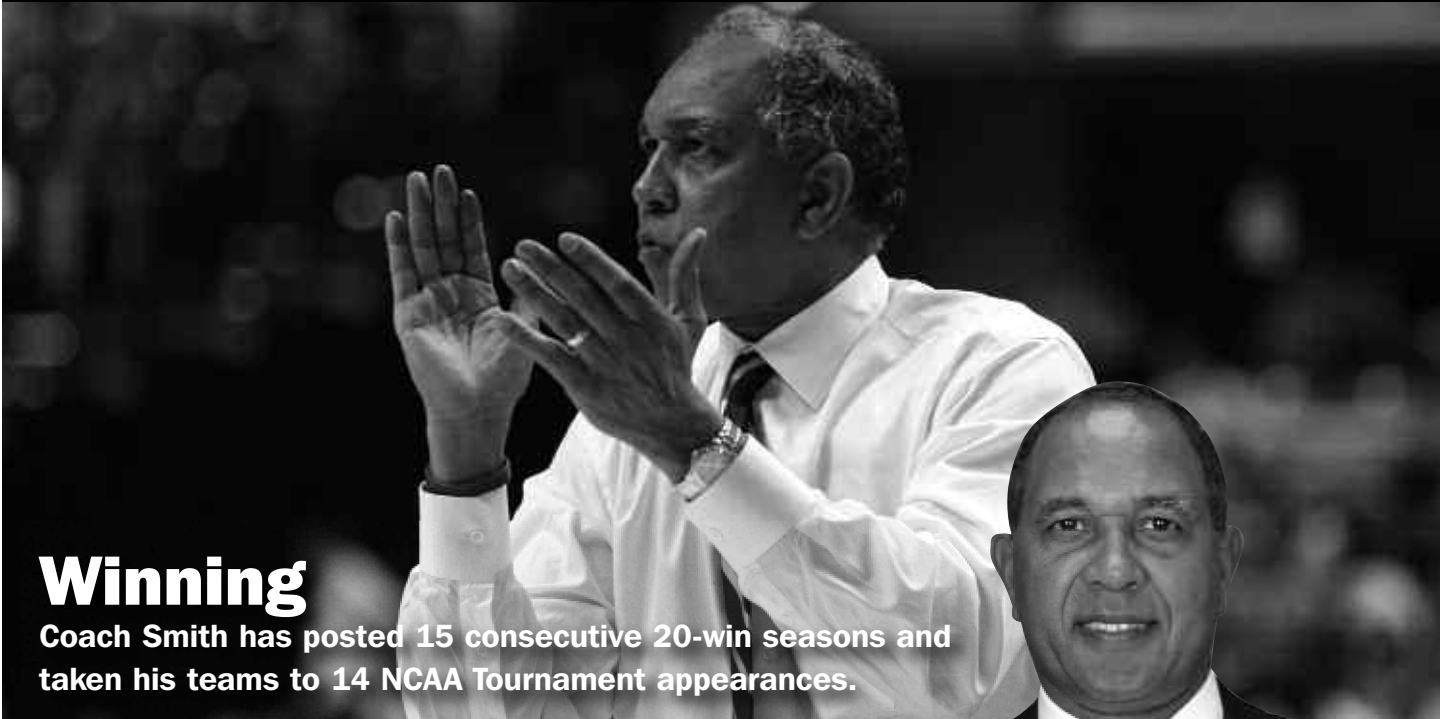
6-0
Lawrence Westbrook

PRONUNCIATION GUIDE

Jamal Abu-SHAMALA	Sha-MAH-lah
Ron JIRSA	jur-SAH
DEVOE Joseph	da-VO

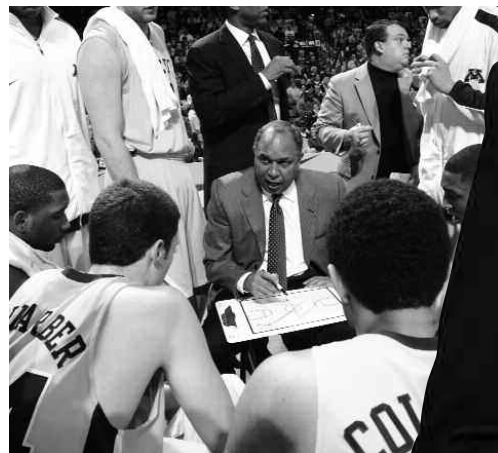
Tubby Smith

One of the nation's most successful and respected coaches



Winning

Coach Smith has posted 15 consecutive 20-win seasons and taken his teams to 14 NCAA Tournament appearances.



NCAA Champion

Smith led Kentucky to the 1998 NCAA Championship

Tubby Smith By The Numbers

▶ 1	National Championship [1998]
▶ 4	NCAA Elite Eight appearances
▶ 3	National Coach of the Year Awards [1998, 2003, 2005]
▶ 5	SEC regular season championships
▶ 5	SEC Tournament titles
▶ 15	Consecutive 20-win seasons, the third-longest active streak in the nation
▶ 407	Career head coaching victories in just 17 seasons as a head coach
▶ 9	NCAA Sweet Sixteen appearances
▶ 17	Tubby Smith players have gone to play in the NBA
▶ 5	NBA First Round draft picks
▶ 5	Top 10 Final Poll Rankings
▶ 15	Consecutive postseason appearances



Immediate Impact

In his first season at Minnesota, Tubby Smith directed a monumental turnaround. The Gophers posted an **11-win improvement**, which ranked as the **second-best turnaround in the nation** in 2007-08 and was the **best in school history**.

What They Are Saying About Tubby

"This will bring instant credibility to the Minnesota program. One of the great things is Minnesota has fans that care so much about the program."
 – **DICK VITALE**, ESPN Basketball analyst

"Tubby gave the University of Minnesota's program instant credibility when he arrived. He's a championship coach whose recruiting, teaching and leadership will make the Gophers a team to be reckoned with in the Big Ten, and on the national front for years to come. The only thing that surpasses what he does as a coach, is what a great person he is for the State of Minnesota".
 – **BRAD NESSLER**, ABC/ESPN

"I have always felt Tubby was underappreciated at Kentucky. I have no doubt that he will have Minnesota in the NCAAs in the years to come. He is one of the more underrated tacticians and teachers of the game."
 – **ANDY KATZ**, ESPN Basketball analyst

"He is known in all circles as a man of great integrity and intensity. He coaches very hard, is a team-oriented person and that's how he expects his team to play."
 – **BILLY PACKER**, former CBS Basketball analyst



Rajon Rondo with 2008 NBA Championship Trophy



TUBBY'S PIPELINE TO THE NBA

Smith has coached 17 players that have reached the NBA, including five first round draft picks

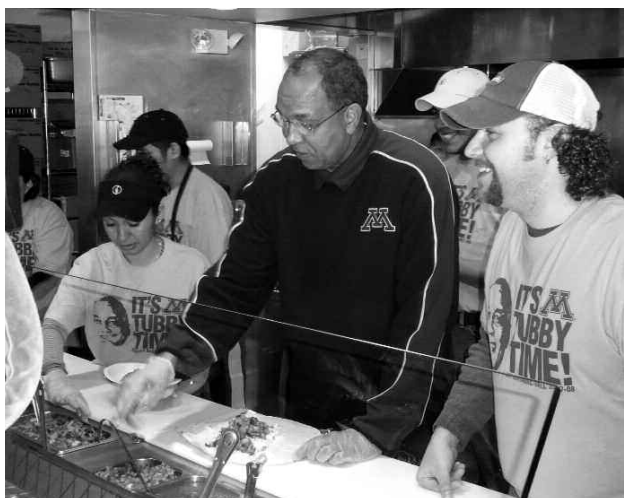


Tubby In The Twin Cities

Coach Smith has quickly become a fixture in the Twin Cities community



Coach Smith was the Grand Marshal for the Minneapolis Aquatennial Torchlight Parade in the summer of 2007.



Among Coach Smith's many appearances was as a guest burrito chef at a Chipotle in Stadium Village on the U of M campus.

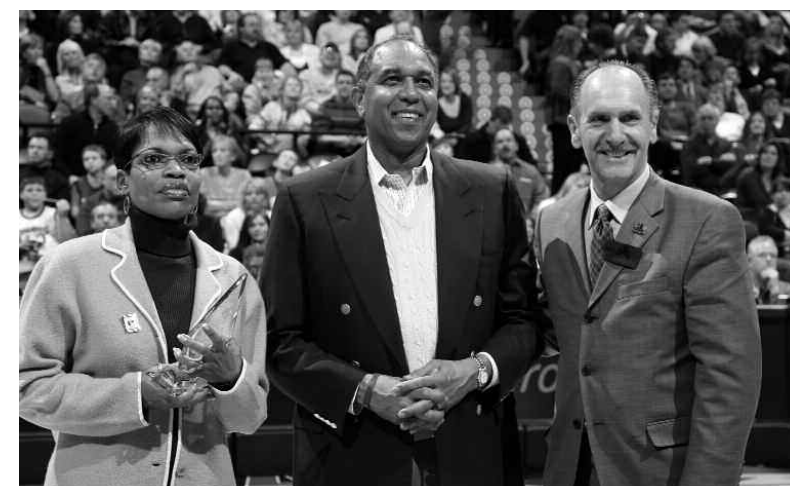


Smith was a guacamole chef for Tejas Restaurant at the Minnesota State Fair in 2008.



Tubby In The Community

Coach Smith has made numerous appearances in the Twin Cities during his tenure at the University of Minnesota and is one of the area's most requested speakers. Smith has made over 50 speaking engagements or appearances since June 2007.



Smith was honored at a 2008 Minnesota Timberwolves game for his contributions to Coaches vs. Cancer.

The Tubby Smith Foundation

Shortly after accepting the job as head basketball coach at Kentucky, Tubby Smith started a foundation to assist underprivileged children. He has since conducted annual auctions, golf tournaments and other events while also accepting donations from companies and corporations throughout the Bluegrass. Now in its ninth year, the Foundation has donated over \$2.3 million to over 100 charities.

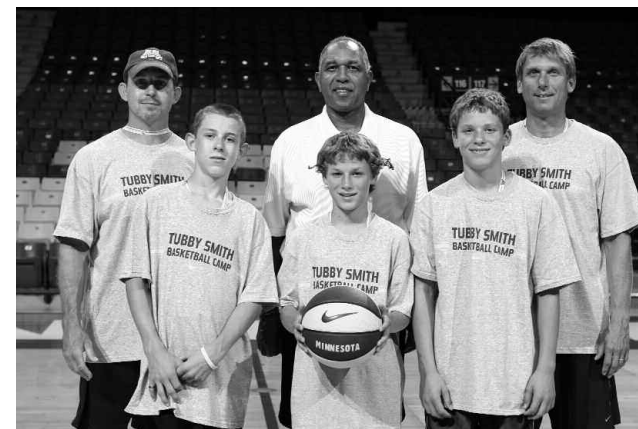


In 2001, the United Way created a new award – The Donna and Tubby Smith Community Spirit Award. The Smiths were the first recipients of the award for their generous contributions. In 2001, their \$125,000 donation made them the highest individual contributor to the United Way in the state of Kentucky.

dents through a 40-hour after school program. Students are given computer training in an effort to help children succeed with increased life skills. There are currently seven Clubhouses in Lexington, one in Northern Kentucky and one soon to open in Owensboro. Tubby's Clubhouse have graduated over 600 young people since its inception.

In January 2004, the foundation teamed with Dell computers, along with several area businesses, to develop "Tubby's Clubhouses." The clubhouses hold refurbished Dell computers at community centers to serve at-risk middle school stu-

Smith plans on developing Tubby's Clubhouses in the Twin Cities metro area in the future.



Coach Smith's Annual Father-Son Basketball Camp is one of the most popular summer camps in the Twin Cities.

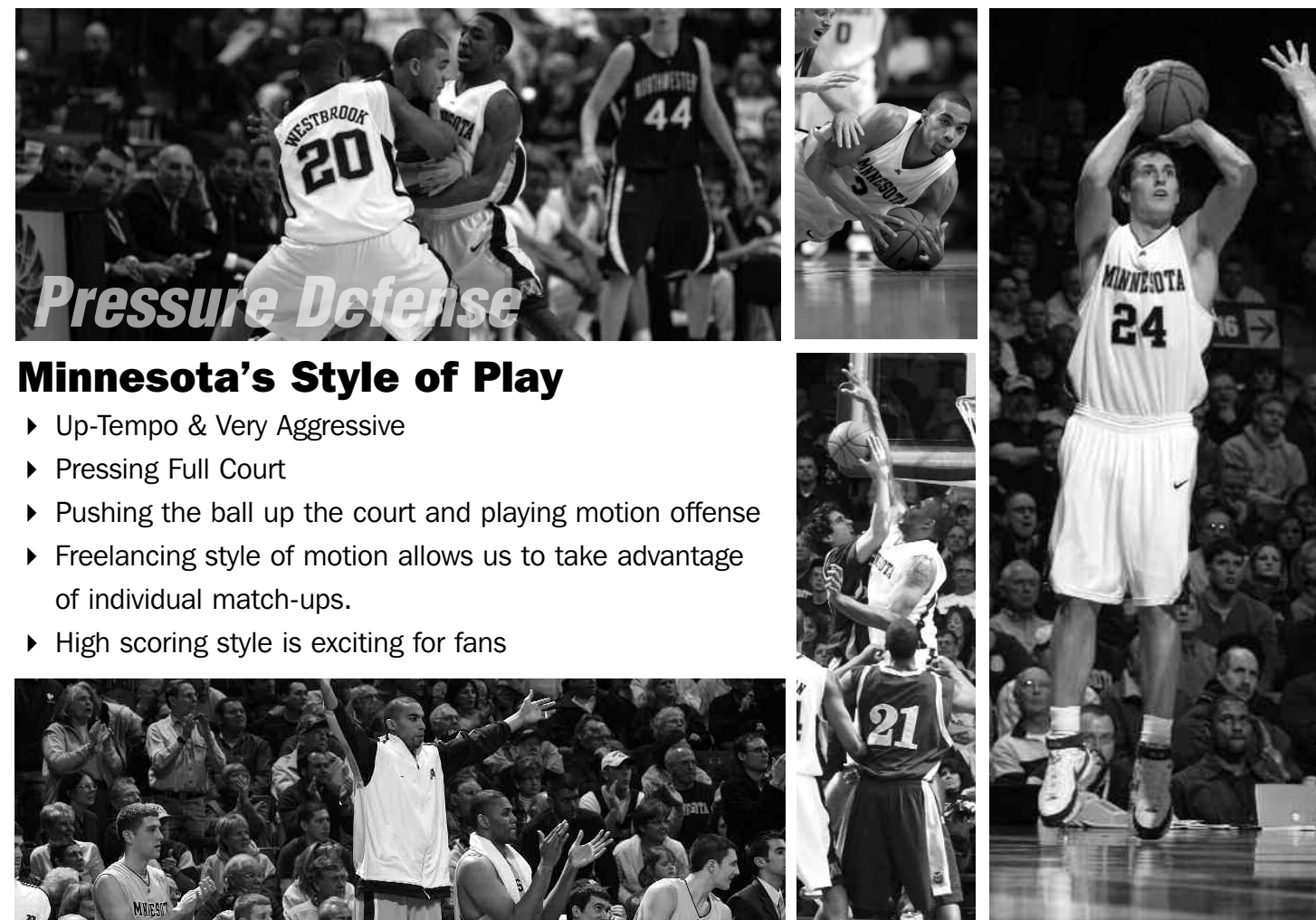
Tubby Ball

Coach Smith has brought an up-tempo, exciting brand of play



Exciting

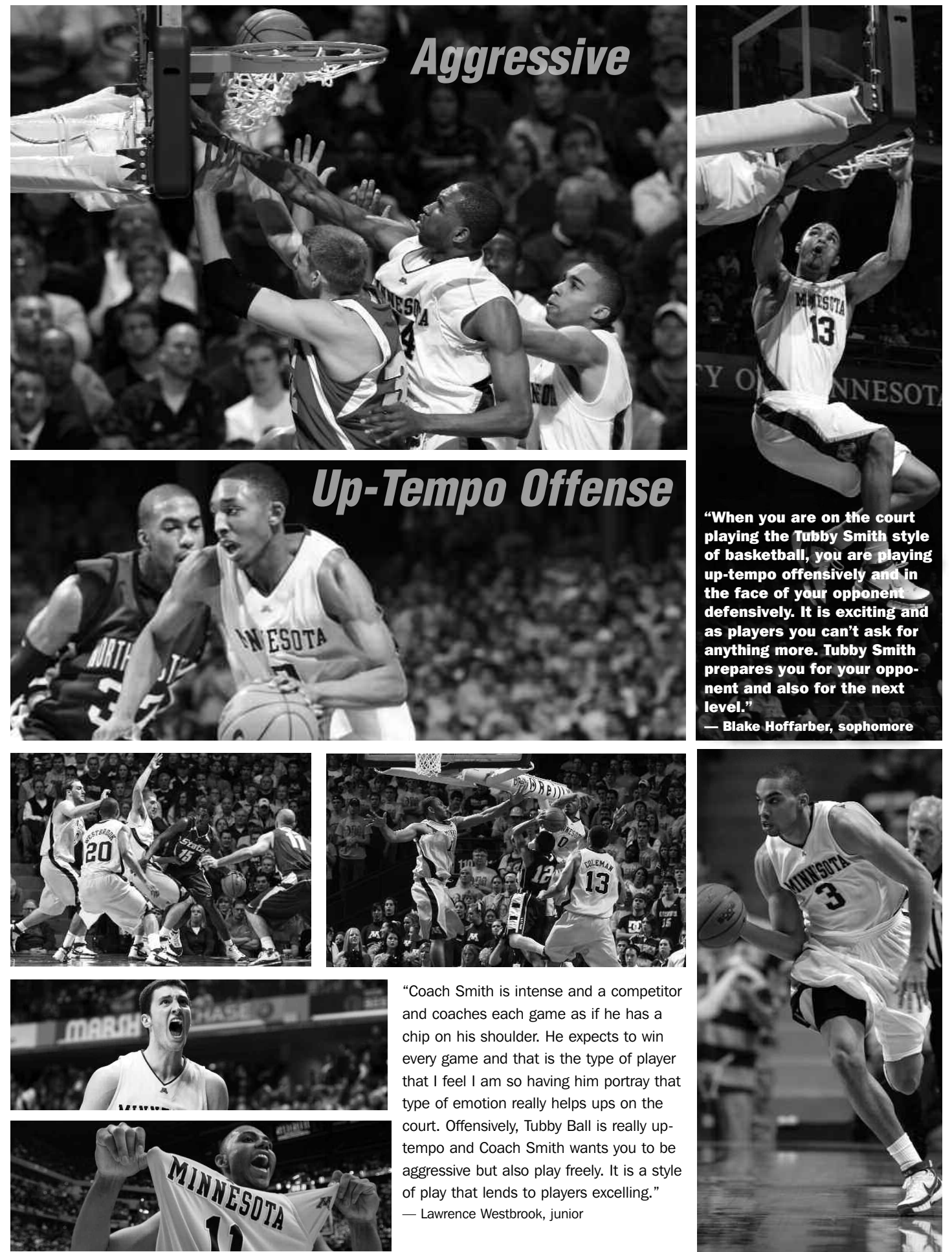
“Our goals and philosophies at Minnesota are simple... We want to win championships and we want to accomplish that by working hard. Offensively, we push the ball up the court, utilize the three point shot and implement a motion offense. Our freelancing style of play allows our players to take advantage of individual matchups. When executed correctly, our style nets high scoring results.”



Pressure Defense

Minnesota's Style of Play

- ▶ Up-Tempo & Very Aggressive
- ▶ Pressing Full Court
- ▶ Pushing the ball up the court and playing motion offense
- ▶ Freelancing style of motion allows us to take advantage of individual match-ups.
- ▶ High scoring style is exciting for fans



Aggressive

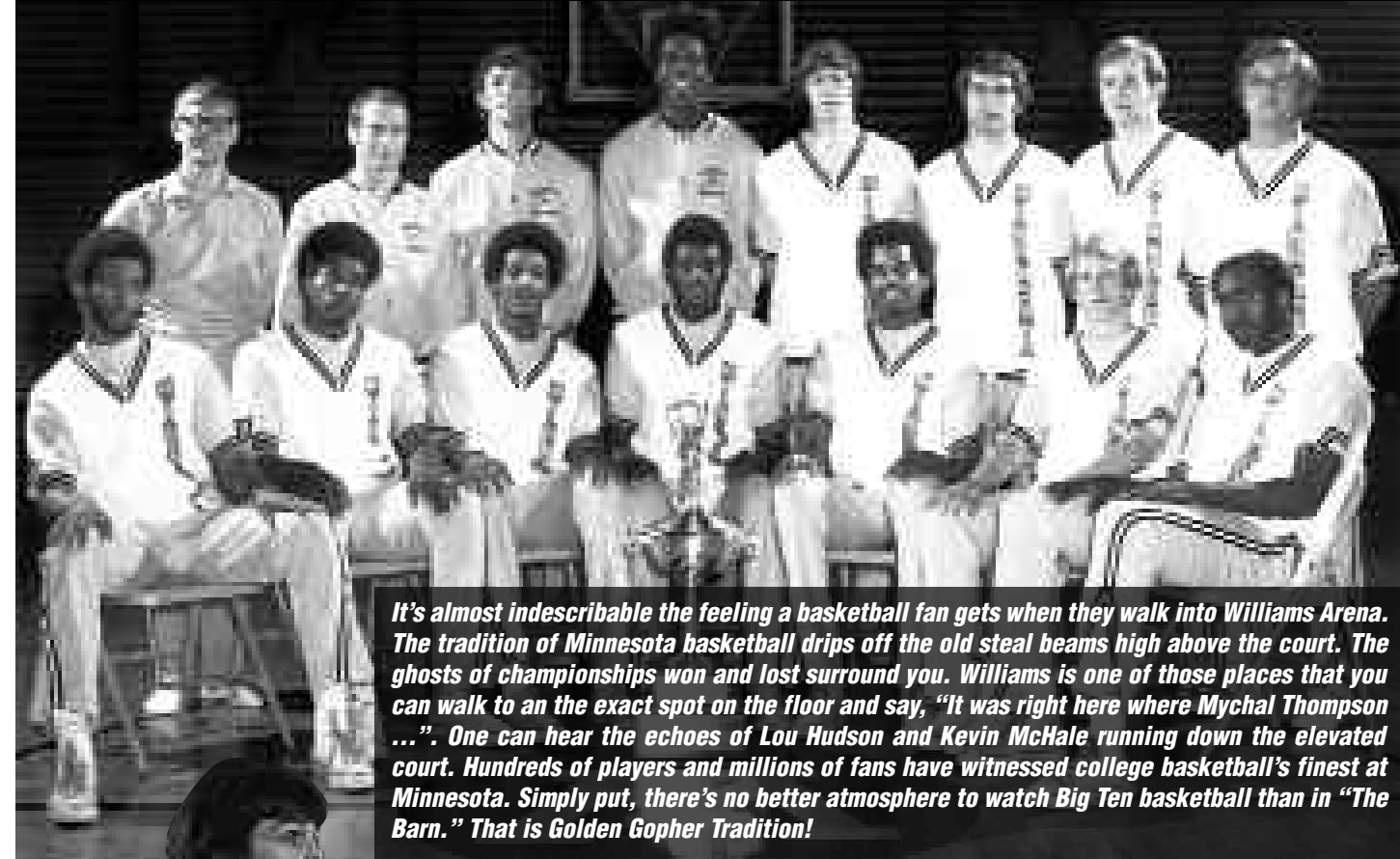
Up-Tempo Offense

“When you are on the court playing the Tubby Smith style of basketball, you are playing up-tempo offensively and in the face of your opponent defensively. It is exciting and as players you can't ask for anything more. Tubby Smith prepares you for your opponent and also for the next level.”
— Blake Hoffarber, sophomore

“Coach Smith is intense and a competitor and coaches each game as if he has a chip on his shoulder. He expects to win every game and that is the type of player that I feel I am so having him portray that type of emotion really helps ups on the court. Offensively, Tubby Ball is really up-tempo and Coach Smith wants you to be aggressive but also play freely. It is a style of play that lends to players excelling.”
— Lawrence Westbrook, junior

Tradition

114 Seasons of Gopher Basketball



It's almost indescribable the feeling a basketball fan gets when they walk into Williams Arena. The tradition of Minnesota basketball drips off the old steel beams high above the court. The ghosts of championships won and lost surround you. Williams is one of those places that you can walk to an the exact spot on the floor and say, "It was right here where Mychal Thompson ...". One can hear the echoes of Lou Hudson and Kevin McHale running down the elevated court. Hundreds of players and millions of fans have witnessed college basketball's finest at Minnesota. Simply put, there's no better atmosphere to watch Big Ten basketball than in "The Barn." That is Golden Gopher Tradition!



Kevin McHale was an All-Big Ten pick in 1980 and was later a first round pick of the Boston Celtics. He was named one of the NBA's 50 Greatest Players of All-Time.



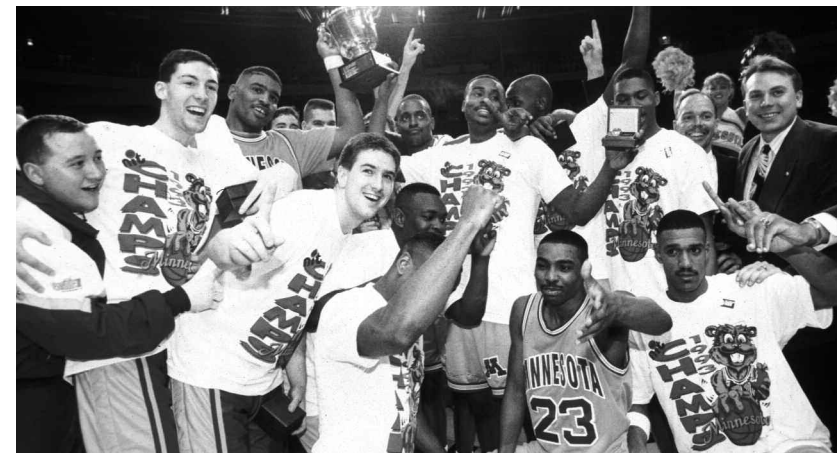
1902 Team: 15-0 record and Helms Athletic Foundation National Champions



Jim Brewer was named a First Team All-American in 1973



Mychal Thompson was a two-time All-American and a three-time All-Big Ten pick



Minnesota won the 1993 NIT with a 62-61 title game win over Georgetown



Whitey Skoog was a two-time All-American in 1950 and 1951



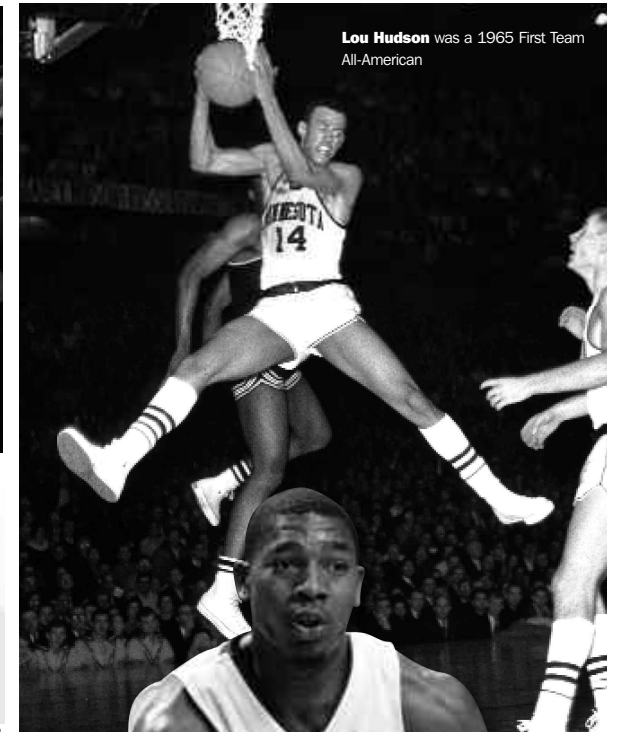
Rick Rickert dunks in the 2003 NIT semifinals in New York City.



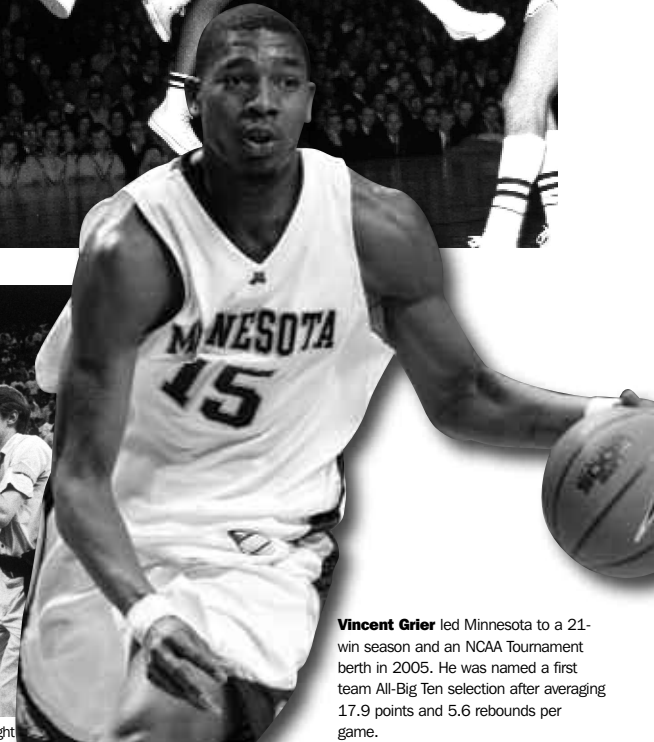
George Tuck was Minnesota's first All-American in 1915.



Kevin Lynch and Willie Burton celebrate after Minnesota advanced to the 1990 NCAA Elite Eight



Lou Hudson was a 1965 First Team All-American



Vincent Grier led Minnesota to a 21-win season and an NCAA Tournament berth in 2005. He was named a first team All-Big Ten selection after averaging 17.9 points and 5.6 rebounds per game.



Williams Arena inaugural game, 1928

Gopher Pros

Gophers Make Their Mark In The NBA



Kris Humphries

41 Gophers have suited up in the NBA

Gophers' NBA Numbers

- ▶ **15** NBA First Round Draft Picks Since 1972
- ▶ **6** NBA First Round Draft Picks Since 1997
- ▶ **54** Overall NBA Draft Selections
- ▶ **10** Top 10 NBA Draft Picks
- ▶ **41** Total Gophers have played in the NBA, the second-most in the Big Ten and eighth overall in the nation.



Lou Hudson

Bobby Jackson

Minnesota has long been a breeding ground for professional basketball players. From NBA Hall of Famer Kevin McHale to past stars Mychal Thompson, Lou Hudson, Archie Clark, Trent Tucker and Jim Brewer to current NBA veterans Kris Humphries, Joel Przybilla, Bobby Jackson, the Golden Gophers have been well-represented in the NBA annals.

Perhaps the most notable of Golden Gopher pros was Kevin McHale, who was named one of the 50 Greatest Players of All-Time after earning seven All-Star game invitations and helping the Boston Celtics to three NBA titles. Mychal Thompson, who was the first overall selection in the 1978 NBA Draft, had a successful 14-year NBA career and won two NBA titles with the Los Angeles Lakers. Lou Hudson spent 13 seasons in the NBA, was chosen to six All-Star games with the Atlanta Hawks and averaged more than 20 points per game in his career. Former Golden Gophers also continue to have a lasting impact on the NBA in coaching and in front office positions. McHale is the vice president of the Minnesota Timberwolves while three-time letterwinner Flip Saunders has spent 13 seasons as an NBA head coach in Minnesota and Detroit. Jim Brewer, an All-American at Minnesota in 1973 and the second overall selection in the '73 NBA Draft, has had a successful coaching career in the NBA, most recently as an assistant coach with the Boston Celtics.



Archie Clark



Mychal Thompson



Kevin McHale



Trent Tucker



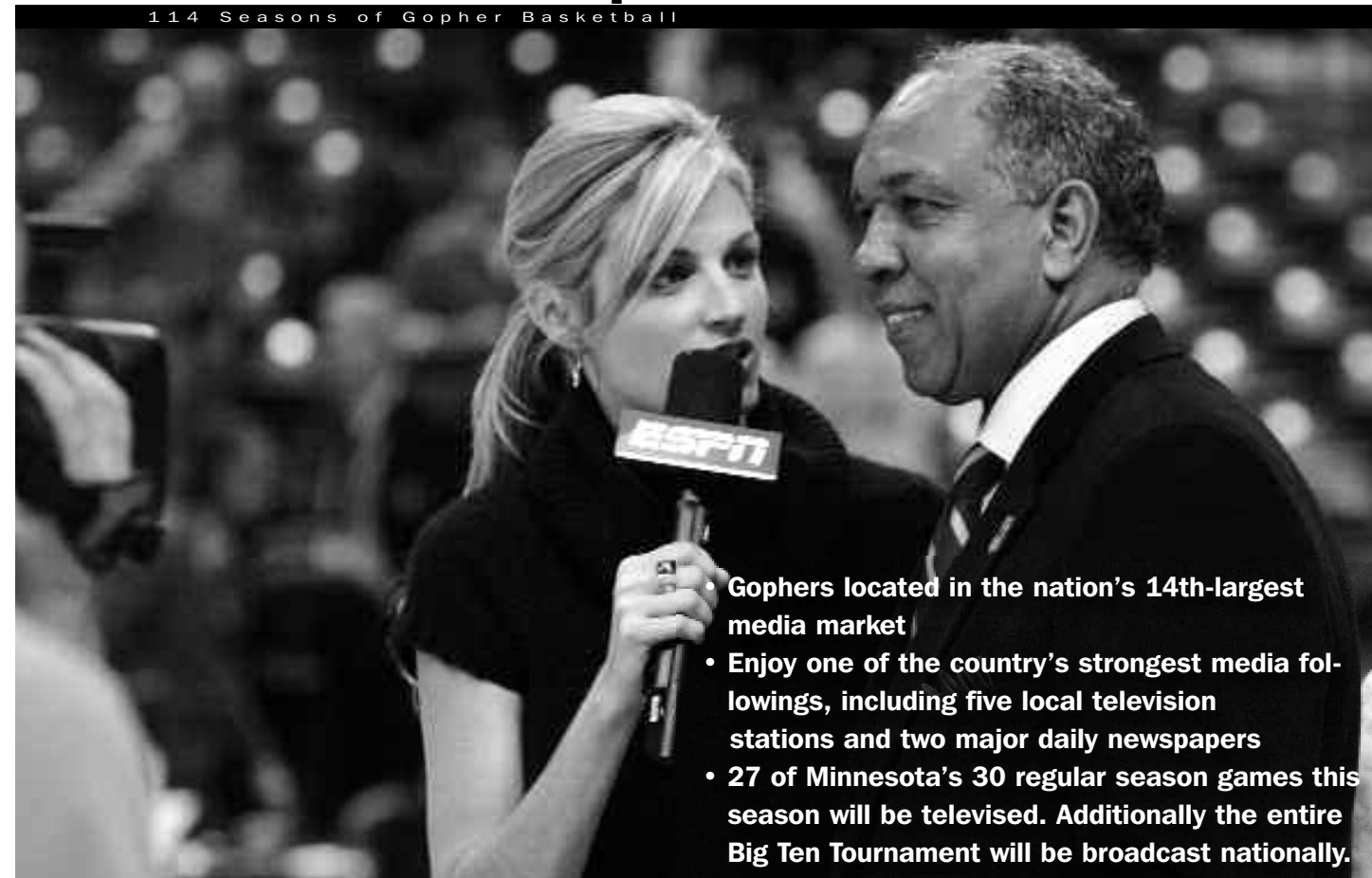
Flip Saunders



J.B. Bickerstaff

National Exposure

114 Seasons of Gopher Basketball



- Gophers located in the nation's 14th-largest media market
- Enjoy one of the country's strongest media followings, including five local television stations and two major daily newspapers
- 27 of Minnesota's 30 regular season games this season will be televised. Additionally the entire Big Ten Tournament will be broadcast nationally.



Big Ten Network

First words ever spoken on the Big Ten Network:
 "Eleven schools, 252 varsity teams, one great network to cover it all. Welcome to the Big Ten Network, your ultimate source for Big Ten sports, featuring the games, passion and tradition of the nation's foremost athletic conference." – Dave Revsine, August 30, 2007



Thanks to the Big Ten Network, fans across the nation were able to get an exclusive, behind the scenes look into the lives of Gopher Basketball players and coaches in "Minnesota Basketball: The Journey". The eight-episode season aired nationally on the BTN in 2007-08.

ABOUT THE BIG TEN NETWORK
 The Big Ten Network is dedicated to covering the Big Ten Conference and its 11 member institutions. The Big Ten Network provides unprecedented access to an extensive schedule of conference sports events and shows; original programs in academics, the arts and sciences; campus activities; and associated personalities. Sports programming includes live coverage of more events than ever before, along with news, highlights and analysis, all complemented by hours of university-produced campus programming. The Big Ten Network is a joint venture between subsidiaries of the Big Ten Conference and Fox Cable Networks. The Big Ten Network reaches a national audience through distribution arrangements with approximately 240 cable and satellite companies.

QUICK FACTS
 Agreement: 20-Year joint venture between subsidiaries of the Big Ten Conference and Fox Cable Networks.
 Headquarters: Chicago, Ill.
 Launch date/time: August 30, 2007, 8 PM ET
 Sports televised: Football, men's basketball, women's basketball and other NCAA-sponsored sports

LIVE EVENTS
 In its "freshman season," the Big Ten Network televised more than 400 live events, plus hundreds of hours of original programming, classic games, coaches' shows and campus programming. Virtually all of the network's live event programming is available in high definition.

- Live Events Specific to Basketball**
- Each Big Ten men's basketball team will make approximately 15-20 appearances on the Big Ten Network this winter.
 - Through the creation of the Big Ten Network, every home Big Ten basketball game was produced.
 - The network televised 64 in-conference match-ups, plus three Big Ten Tournament contests.
 - All of those games were produced in high definition.
 - The network has a live studio presence at the Big Ten Men's Basketball Tournament in Indianapolis.

BTN PROGRAMMING
Big Ten Tonight – Bringing the viewer Big Ten highlights, analysis, features, historical segments, interviews and breaking news, Big Ten Tonight has unprecedented access that sets it apart from all other sports highlight shows. No other show has a mini-studio at each campus, providing Big Ten Tonight with interviews with coaches and players every evening. With lively segments mixed with features honoring the conference's illustrious history, Big Ten Tonight delves into Big Ten athletics, making it the only destination for Big Ten fans.

The Big Ten's Greatest Games – They are epic sports battles that are etched in fans' hearts and minds. They are unforgettable moments that stir passion and pride. They are echoes of both triumphant victories and devastating defeats. Throughout the year, fans have the opportunity to relive these match-ups on the Big Ten Network series, "The Big Ten's Greatest Games." Series producers have interviewed many legendary players and coaches from those games along with those who were on hand to cover the event. Their insights and memories are integrated into each episode.



Big Ten Short Stories – For every touchdown pass, goal, dunk, spike, kick-save, pin or home run you see on the screen, there is an untold story about the people who made these memorable plays possible. Going behind the scenes and beyond the highlight reels, Big Ten Short Stories turns the spotlight on the people and places that make the Big Ten so special. Whether it's a feature on an amazing student-athlete, an iconic retired coach, or a fabled football stadium, this is the show tells the story.

Coaches' Q&A – While you were at work or school on Monday or Tuesday afternoon, your favorite Big Ten team's head coach held his weekly press conference to review last week's game and preview this week's opponent. Coaches' Q&A takes the best sound bites from these press conferences and boils them down into an insightful 60-minute weekly program. Airing Wednesday nights, Coaches' Q&A lets the head coaches do the talking.

The Journey – The Big Ten Network's original reality series, The Journey, follows one specific Big Ten team during the course of an entire season. Big Ten Network cameras will take viewers deep inside the program by capturing compelling moments during pre-game, halftime and post-game speeches, on the team plane and buses, practices, in the classroom and away from the field. The first season of The Journey covered Minnesota Basketball in the first year under the direction of coach Tubby Smith.



Williams Arena

Minnesota's Home Since 1928



Whenever anyone asks me my favorite places, I always say I like the old ones. It just seems like there's something about their character. It seems like the seats have witnessed everything, and it speaks to the mystique of the team and the university. The atmosphere isn't plastic like the seats in a new arena. The old ones are steeped with tradition. You walk in and you think of all the great players that have played there. And that's what leads a kid to want to come and play at Williams Arena. — **BILL RAFTERY, National College Basketball Television Analyst**



Steeped in history and tradition, Williams Arena is one of the greatest arenas in college basketball history.

Originally opened in 1928, "The Barn" has undergone major renovations, making the arena not just one of the oldest and traditional buildings in the country, but one of the most complete and cutting-edge.

The most recent update to the arena came in the winter of 2005, when a state-of-the-art team lounge area was added, including several high definition televisions, a theater-style team film room, a coaches' strategy room, computer lab, kitchen and large expansive lounge area. The area is complete with every amenity that a Gopher basketball player would need. In addition, the team's training area, located down the hall from the locker room and team lounge area, was remodeled and expanded.

In the summer of 1997, 21 luxury barn lofts above the second deck were built. The lofts offer a spectacular birds-eye view of the court with luxury amenities. The \$2.3 million project added 304 seats to the capacity, raising it to 14,625.

Following the 1991-92 season, the renovation of Williams Arena began as part of a \$41 million project for on-campus sports facilities. The first phase was completed in time for the 1992-93 season opener. The Golden Gophers' locker room, training room, spacious offices and team meeting rooms, are now state-of-the-art. The locker room was named in honor of former Golden Gopher coach Ozzie Cowles through the more

than \$100,000 in gifts from many of his former players.

Construction on what is now known as Williams Arena was started in 1927 and completed in 1928, when it was dedicated as the University of Minnesota Field House. It cost \$650,000 and initially had a seating capacity of 14,100 with bleacher and standing room expansion to 16,000. The original building housed basketball and winter football practice facilities. When the basketball season was completed, the portable floor was taken out and replaced by a pair of tennis courts and an indoor track. Ohio State won the first basketball game held in the building, scoring a 42-40 double overtime victory over the Golden Gophers on Feb. 4, 1928.

The building was remodeled in 1950. Renamed in honor of Dr. Henry L. Williams, U of M football coach from 1900 to 1921, it was divided into a hockey arena on one end and a basketball arena with a seating capacity of 18,025 on the other. From 1950 until 1971, it had the largest capacity of any collegiate basketball arena in the country. The capacity has been reduced to 14,625 in recent years due to renovation, fire-code restrictions and handicapped-seating construction.

The east end addition is highlighted by the Williams Arena Club on the third floor. The Club overlooks the floor and can hold parties of up to 200 fans, adding another touch of class to an already classy arena. The second phase of the renovation project was completed during the summer of 1993. It included the installation of theater-style seats, the widening of con-

course areas and the addition of both concession areas and women's restrooms.

A large portion of the renovation was financed by private gifts, including those to the successful \$5.5 million sports-facilities campaign, and by the generous participation of fans through the assured-seating program.

The site of the 1951 NCAA Finals, "The Barn" can be a frightening venue for opponents. The raised floor, one of only a handful in the country, and the deafening roar of 14,000-plus fans unquestionably has something to do with it. Spectators need to only witness the atmosphere and feel the electricity in The Barn just prior to any Big Ten game to find enough evidence to support that fact. With sellout crowds cheering them on, the Golden Gophers have become very tough to beat at home in front of their loyal fans. The Golden Gophers suffered only two losing seasons at the Barn since the 1935-36 campaign. Minnesota was 13-5 at Williams Arena last season. The Golden Gophers' overall record in "The Barn" stands at 694-276 for a winning percentage of .715.

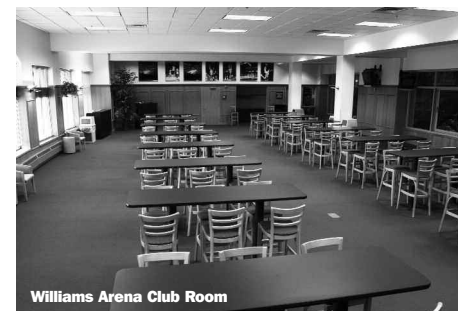
A long and illustrious list of college basketball's greatest players have run the Williams Arena hardwood through the years, and many memorable games have been contested within its hallowed walls. The historic arena is among the finest in college basketball and enable that mystique to live on for many years to come. Williams Arena is truly what college basketball is all about.

Williams Arena

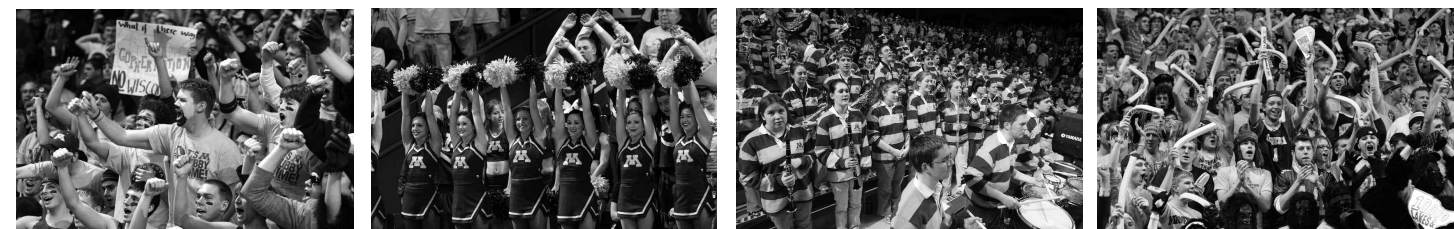


“I will never forget running onto the floor of Williams Arena for the first time. Our locker room was down by the tunnel. I opened the door and there was a buzz and I did not know where it was coming from so I went back in and opened the door again. Then I realized that the buzz was the crowd upstairs. I ran out there to warm up and was in shock. It dawned on me that you could put the entire town I grew up in that arena and still have seats left over.”

— **KEVIN McHALE**



Game Day At "The Barn"



When it comes to excitement, drama and the electricity of athletic competition, there is nothing better than NCAA Basketball. It doesn't get any better than the elevated hardwood of Williams Arena for game-day excitement. The atmosphere is unbelievable. Some of the finest basketball in the nation is displayed on a stage three feet off the ground in front of 14,000-plus screaming fans. The action is just a handshake away and the feeling is hard to put into words.

Williams Arena, "The Barn," has been the hallowed home of Golden Gopher basketball for 80 years. During that span, the Maroon and Gold has carved a .715 home winning percentage. Long thought of as one of the toughest arenas in the country for visitors, it provides the ultimate home court advantage. The fans come out in full force for every game. Nearly 200,000 fans per year have come through the gate every season for the past 30 years. Williams Arena was the largest collegiate basketball arena in the country from 1950 until 1971, before renovations reduced the capacity from its original high of 18,025 to its current total of 14,625.

The excitement of Big Ten basketball at Williams Arena is seen across the country. Almost every Golden Gopher game at Williams Arena is televised and can be seen anywhere in the United States. From CBS to to ESPN and ESPN2, to Big Ten Network telecasts, when the Golden Gophers play at Williams Arena it can be seen just about anywhere. And it's not just the building, it's the people who fill it. Minneapolis/St. Paul is a major league community with major professional sports teams. The Twin Cities has been host to the Super Bowl, the Final Four, the World Series, and the NBA All-Star game just to name a few. But in the end, if you have a seat at Williams Arena for Golden Gopher Basketball, you have the hottest ticket in town!



Strength & Conditioning

Bigger, Faster, Stronger



The University of Minnesota has top-of-the-line facilities, equipment and personnel when it comes to strength and conditioning. The Golden Gophers have the luxury of training in two top-notch facilities. The 12,000-square foot weight room in the Gibson-Nagurski Football Complex and a fully-equipped weight room in Mariucci Arena offer the Golden Gophers convenience and every possible amenity.

“In our Strength and conditioning program student-athletes can expect a program where it is common practice to explore the scientific approach of training athletes,” said strength and conditioning coach Cal Dietz. “It encompasses numerous aspects of strength and conditioning, through implementation of extensive research theories and applied knowledge in the multi-discipline field of strength and conditioning.”



Bierman Weight Room

Basketball Life

Gophers Enjoy Apartment-Type Living With Amenities



First Class Residences

Golden Gopher basketball student-athletes reside in Wilkins and Yudof Halls on the University of Minnesota East Bank campus. All rooms are private two-bedroom suites and offer the Gophers privacy with apartment-type living style. All suites include:

- Individual large bedrooms
- Kitchen
- Washer/Dryer
- Living Room
- Cable and Internet access



On The Road

Gophers Travel With Luxury and Convenience



Gophers Travel Exclusively On Convenient Chartered Flights

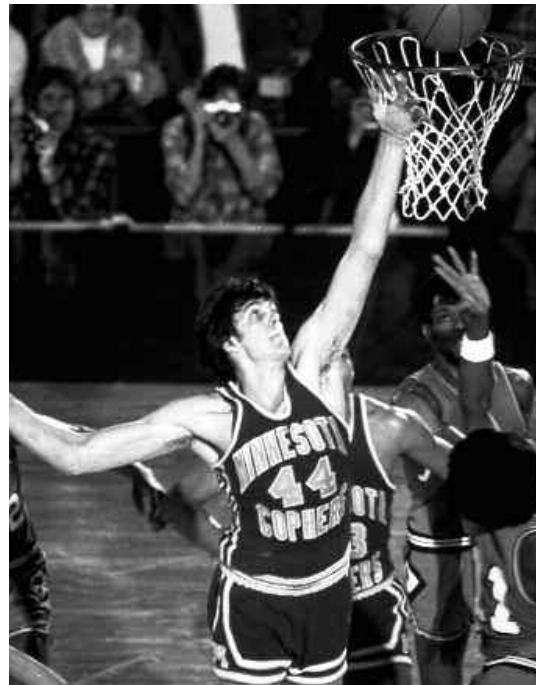


Top Shelf Travel

- Chartered Flights
- Luxury Coach Buses
- First-Class Hotels
- Catered Meals At Hotels And On Flights
- Fun Destinations
 - Traveled to Hawaii, Alaska, Orlando and New York City in the last seven years.



Life After Basketball



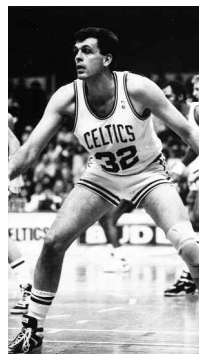
KEVIN McHALE

**Lettered 1977-80 • All-Big Ten, 1980
NBA Hall of Fame
Three-time NBA Champion, Boston Celtics**

Vice President of Basketball Operations, Minnesota Timberwolves
Kevin McHale was named Minnesota's Player of the Century during the 100 Years of Hoops celebration in 1995. The Hibbing, Minn., native was a two-time team MVP in 1979 and '80, and still holds the school record for career blocked shots. He went on to a stellar career with the Boston Celtics, winning three NBA Championships ('81, '84, '86). He is now the vice president of basketball operations for the Minnesota Timberwolves. McHale was honored for his career achievements when he was selected to the Basketball Hall of Fame on Oct. 1, 1999. His number 44 was retired by the University of Minnesota in 1993.

QUOTING McHALE

"I had a tremendous time at the University of Minnesota. Both my experiences on the basketball court and my day-to-day experiences were once in a lifetime opportunities. Those are memories that I will cherish forever. I met more interesting and diverse people in my four years at the University than I did in 13 years of professional basketball. So many of the people I met while at the University I have stayed in contact with and have remained lifetime friends. Playing Big Ten basketball was a dream come true for a kid from the Iron Range of Hibbing, Minn. The decision to attend the University of Minnesota still stands out as one of the best I ever made. Minnesota is my home and the Twin Cities area is a great place to live. The area is filled with opportunities after basketball, and the University has always had the support of the local community and of the entire state of Minnesota."



JIM PETERSEN

**Lettered 1981-84
Television Analyst, Minnesota Timberwolves, FSN North**



Jim Petersen was a key member of Minnesota's 1982 Big Ten championship team. The Minneapolis native went on to play forward and center for the Houston Rockets, Sacramento Kings and Golden State Warriors during an eight-year NBA career. The former Minnesota Mr. Basketball is currently in his ninth season with the Minnesota Timberwolves broadcast team on FSN North.

QUOTING PETERSEN

"As a kid growing up in Minneapolis it was always my dream to play basketball at the University of Minnesota. I used to dream about playing in a Gopher uniform on the same raised floor at Williams Arena as my childhood heroes Clyde Turner, Mychal Thompson and Kevin McHale. I will never forget the chills that shot up my spine the first time I climbed up the stairs and stepped on the freshly varnished Williams Arena floor to the roar of 19,000 fans singing the Minnesota Rouser. What an honor!
My time at the University of Minnesota was filled with ups and downs but what remains are the relationships I have with my former teammates, and the bond I have with all of the other men who wore the Maroon and Gold. I am thankful for my connection with the University of Minnesota because it binds me to this community in a way that would be different had I gone someplace else. When you attend a college like the U of M, you are not only a part of a team, you become part of something much larger...a tradition. You are linked with a fraternity of players like Hudson, Clark, Brewer, Thompson, McHale and Tucker and by proxy are lifted higher as a player."



CLYDE TURNER

**Lettered 1972-73 • All-Big Ten, 1972
Director of Program Resources at Family Alternatives**

Clyde Turner was a key member of Minnesota's 1972 Big Ten championship team. The Champaign, Ill., native was named to the First Team All-Big Ten squad as a forward that same season. He scored 21 points and grabbed seven rebounds to help lead the Golden Gophers to a 91-62 win over Illinois that clinched the 1972 Big Ten title for Minnesota. He was drafted by the Milwaukee Bucks in 1973, then returned to earn his bachelor's degree. He later picked up his master's in social work. Currently, he is the director of program resources at Family Alternatives in the Twin Cities.

QUOTING TURNER

"The University of Minnesota was an important development in my life in terms of my emotional, mental and cognitive growth, as well as national exposure. It provided me with a chance to showcase my athleticism as a basketball player and work toward my educational goals. There were many challenges and successes in the process in dealing with my peers, coaches, sportswriters, alumni, fans, educators and the community at large. The recognition, effort and fruits of my labor are evident in my success today. It was an interesting journey that went forth with changes for the best that will have lasting effects."



PHIL "FLIP" SAUNDERS

**Lettered 1974-77
Former NBA Head Coach, Detroit Pistons & Minnesota Timberwolves**



Phil "Flip" Saunders was a point guard and deadly free-throw shooter for the Golden Gophers. The Cleveland, Ohio native was a four-year letterwinner (1974-77) and helped lead the Golden Gophers to a 24-3 record his senior season. He graduated in 1977 with a degree in business administration. As a player, Flip was almost like another coach on the court. He has taken that experience to another level. He is currently the head coach of the Detroit Pistons after nine years as the head coach of the Minnesota Timberwolves and is regarded as one of the top basketball minds in the NBA. He led the Wolves to the Western Conference Finals in 2004 and the Pistons to three Eastern Conference Finals.

QUOTING SAUNDERS

"Nothing comes easily in life. Everyone is given a special skill, whether it be a physical talent or an athletic mind — it's all about finding your potential on and off the court. A good athletics program like the one at the University of Minnesota, along with their coaches, helped to provide me with the foundation for success. The four years I spent at the U of M were some of the most enjoyable experiences I have ever had. Many of the relationships I developed while I was a student-athlete there have been maintained to this day."



MYCHAL THOMPSON

**Lettered 1975-78 • All-American 1977-78
Television Color Analyst, Los Angeles Lakers**

A two-time All-American for the Golden Gophers at center, Mychal Thompson is Minnesota's all-time leading scorer (1,992) and rebounder (956). A three-time First Team All-Big Ten selection, Thompson recorded likely the best individual season in school history in 1975-76, averaging 25.9 points, 12.5 rebounds and 2.5 blocks per game, while shooting 57 percent from the floor. He became the first Golden Gopher to ever be selected as the No. 1 overall pick in the NBA Draft when Portland chose him in 1978. He played 14 seasons in the NBA and won two world titles with the Los Angeles Lakers in 1987 and 1988. A 1978 U of M graduate, Thompson has worked in television broadcasting since retiring from the NBA in 1991. After several seasons as a color analyst for the Minnesota Timberwolves on Fox Sports Net, he recently moved back to Los Angeles as a color analyst for the Lakers television network.



QUOTING THOMPSON

"I think one of the greatest things Minnesota has to offer is that it is a beautiful part of the country with the nicest people. Coming from a small country like the Bahamas, it was very easy for me to get to know people and get an excellent education both on campus and off. It is a very wholesome atmosphere. I spent some time out in Oregon, but nothing compares to Minnesota and all it has to offer.
"One of the best aspects of being a student at the University of Minnesota is that you have the perfect balance of academics and student life. The campus life and overall atmosphere allows for the perfect balance. Being a student-athlete, also enabled me to be in contact with some of the greatest media personalities around. It allowed me to establish relationships and learn from what the media had to offer, which I think, without a doubt, really prepared me for the broadcasting field."

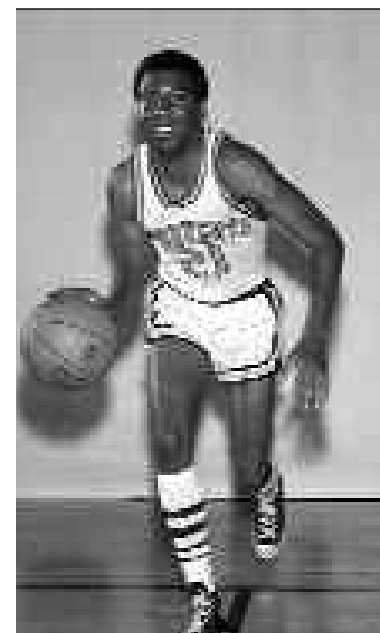
AL NUNESS

**Lettered 1968-69 • All-Big Ten, 1969
Vice President of Sales, Jostens**

Al Nuness was a guard for the Golden Gophers in 1968 and '69. He was named a team captain in 1969 and earned All-Big Ten recognition that same season. A native of Maywood, Ill., located in the Chicago area, he graduated in 1969 and went on to play briefly with the Phoenix Suns. He has since made an impact in the Twin Cities business world, with Pillsbury, the Minnesota Timberwolves, and, most recently, as a Vice President of Jostens. He was also involved as a member of the Twin Cities Organizing Committee of the 2001 Final Four. Nuness was the committee chair of the YES Clinic at the Final Four, which is a NCAA sponsored clinic for inner city youth.

QUOTING NUNESS

"During my campus visit to Minnesota I had an opportunity to visit with Harvey Mackay, the businessman, author and motivational speaker. I'll never forget the question Harvey asked me: 'Will you be able to live, raise a family and work in the community where you attend school?' That was a very important question, because the Twin Cities area ranked among the top five cities in the country in quality of life, job opportunities and quality of education. Armed with this information, my decision where to attend college became crystal clear. During the past 30 years, I have had an opportunity to work for three Fortune 500 companies here in the Twin Cities, and have served on a number of civic and community boards. With the exception of the person whom I asked to become my wife of 29 years, the decision to attend the University of Minnesota has been the best decision of my life."



Big Ten Basketball



Consecro Fieldhouse



Indianapolis, Ind.



2009 BIG TEN TOURNAMENT Consecro Fieldhouse, Indianapolis

SCHEDULE OF GAMES

March 12			
#8 vs. #9	Noon	BTN	
#7 vs. #10	2:30 p.m.	ESPN2	
#8 vs. #11	5:05 p.m.	ESPN2	

March 13			
#1 vs. G1 Winner	Noon	ESPN	
#4 vs. #5	2:30 p.m.	ESPN	
#2 vs. G2 Winner	6:40 p.m.	BTN	
#3 vs. G3 Winner	9:10 p.m.	BTN	

March 14			
Semifinal #1	1:40 p.m.	CBS	
Semifinal #2	4:05 p.m.	CBS	

March 15			
Championship Game	3:30 p.m.	CBS	



Lawrence Westbrook drives to the basket against Indiana in the Big Ten Tournament quarterfinals at Consecro Fieldhouse.

BIG TEN FACTS

A DEEP CONFERENCE: The Big Ten is the only conference since 2000 to advance five different programs to the Final Four. The ACC, Big 12 and Big East have each had four different schools reach the national semifinals over that time, followed by the Pac-10 (2) and the SEC (2). Michigan State leads the Big Ten with three appearances (2000, 2001 and 2005) while Illinois (2005), Indiana (2002), Ohio State (2007) and Wisconsin (2000) have each earned a Final Four spot since 2000.

BIG TEN TOURNAMENT ATTENDANCE SURPASSES ONE-MILLION MARK: After welcoming 969,038 patrons in its first decade, the Big Ten Men's Basketball Tournament broke the one-million barrier in total attendance with a sellout crowd of 18,691 during Friday night's session at Consecro Fieldhouse. Through five sessions the Big Ten welcomed 80,012 fans to boost the all-time tournament attendance to 1,049,050.

BIG TEN CONFERENCE REACHES ATTENDANCE MILESTONES: The Big Ten has once again surpassed the two-million mark in total attendance and the one-million mark in conference games. The conference welcomed 2,405,348 fans in 187 home contests. This is the 16th season in which the Big Ten has seen more than two million spectators pass through the turnstiles. For the 31st season, attendance at Big Ten contests has eclipsed the one million mark, as 1,347,040 fans have attended 99 games.

BIG TEN TOURNAMENT BENEFITS: Since the inception of the Big Ten Tournament in 1998, the conference has sent eight different teams to the Final Four and has won over 60 percent of its NCAA Tournament games, compiling a record of 82-48 in the national event from 1998 through 2007. The conference teams that have won the Big Ten Tournament have combined to post a 23-7 (.767) record in the NCAA Championship prior to this year's event.

FINAL FOUR REGULARS: The Big Ten has accumulated a record 39 Final Four appearances, tying the ACC for the national lead. The Big Ten is also tied with the ACC and SEC with the second-most national titles (10) in college basketball history. The Pac-10 leads all conferences with 15 titles. Since the inception of the NCAA Tournament in 1939, the Big Ten has recorded the most appearances of any conference in the Big Dance with 184 (ACC, 171) and has the second-most NCAA Tournament victories with 295 (ACC, 329).



Blake Hofferbar and Minnesota had the moment of the 2008 Big Ten Tournament when Hofferbar hit a buzzer-beater to beat Indiana in the quarterfinals. Hofferbar's miraculous shot earned him an ESPY nomination.



Vincent Grier, Rick Rickert and Kris Humphries are the last three Gophers to earn All-Big Ten First Team honors.



University of Minnesota

One Of The Most Comprehensive And Prestigious Universities In The United States



A world-class university — known globally as a leader in teaching, research and public service, the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities consistently ranks among the top six public research universities in the nation. More than 160 bachelor's degrees, 150 master's degrees and 100 doctoral degrees make the University one of the most comprehensive institutions in the country. Many of the programs are recognized as national and international leaders.

Also a thriving center for culture and the arts, The "U" features outstanding galleries, museums, concerts, theater productions and public lectures. Add in the excitement of Big Ten Athletics, and the University of Minnesota has something for everyone. The University community is a broad mix of ethnic backgrounds, interests and cultures. Students come from all 50 states and more than 100 countries. Many small communities of students, faculty and staff help to create a welcoming feeling on campus.

The campus in Minneapolis is located just a few minutes east of downtown. Nestled along the bluffs of the Mississippi River, buildings in Minneapolis range from the ultramodern Weisman Art Museum to the classic and stately Northrop Memorial Auditorium. A few miles to the east in St. Paul, rolling hills and quiet lawns create a more rural setting. The Minneapolis and St. Paul parts of the campus are connected by a convenient campus shuttle system.

The University of Minnesota also provides a life beyond the campus like few other Big Ten universities can. The dynamic communities of Minneapolis and St. Paul offer something for everyone—a nationally-recognized arts and theater community, a thriving entertainment industry, a host of Fortune 500 companies, four glorious seasons of outdoor recreation, exciting professional sports, shopping and restaurants for every taste, all located close to campus.

Founded in 1851, seven years before the territory of Minnesota became a state, the University is the largest in the state and touches the lives of thousands of people every day through its teaching, research and service.



About the 'U'

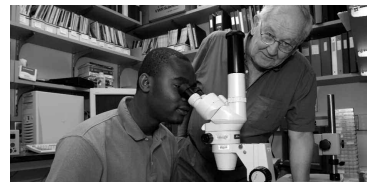
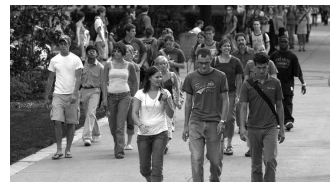
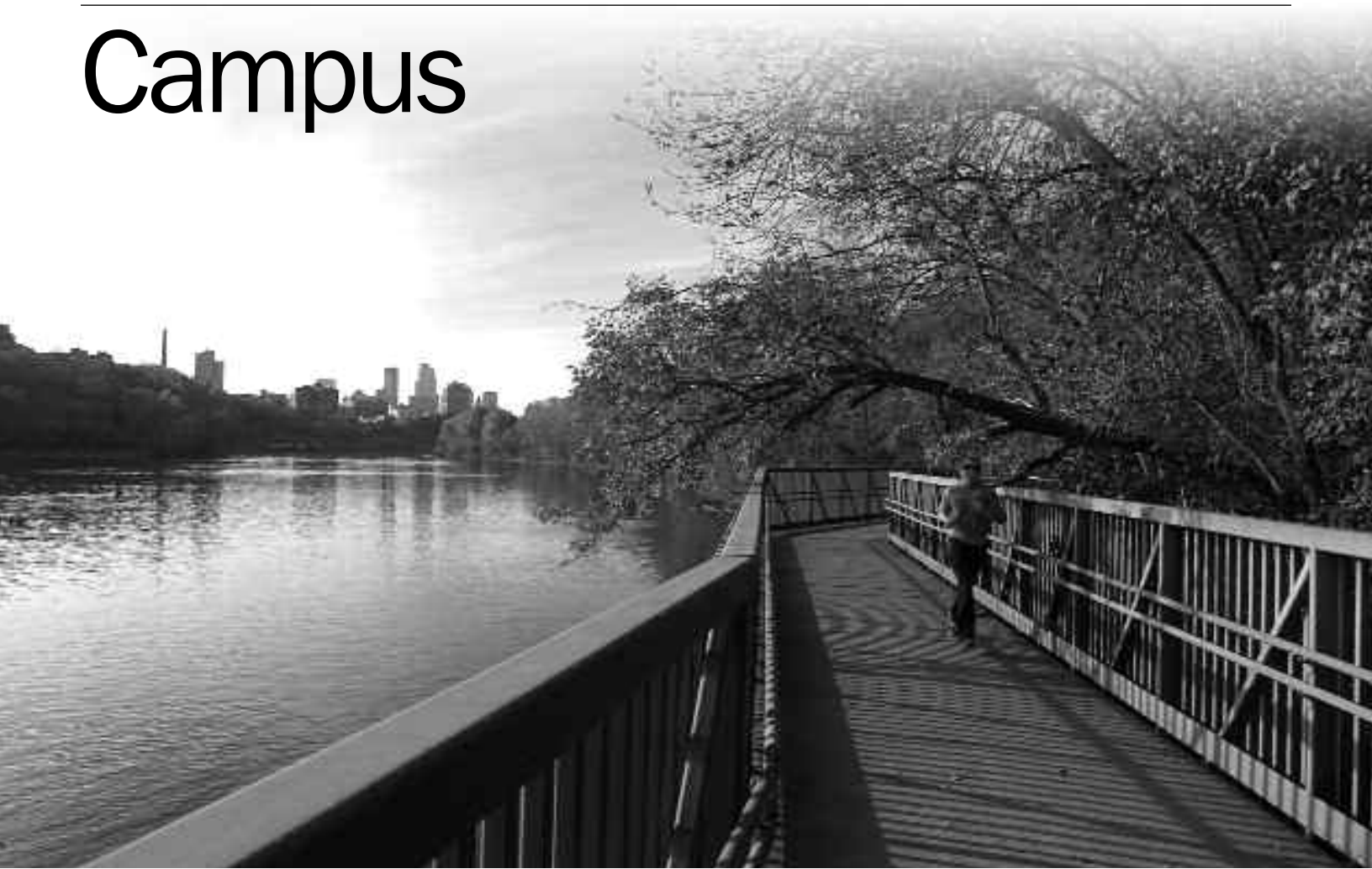
- Founded in 1851, the University of Minnesota is one of the most comprehensive public universities in the United States and ranks among the most prestigious. It is both the state land-grant university and the state's only major research university.
- The University's Twin Cities campus consistently ranks among the top six public research universities in the nation.
- More than 160 bachelor's degrees, 150 master's degrees and 100 doctoral degrees are offered.
- As one of the largest urban universities in the United States, the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities provides many opportunities for students, faculty and staff to participate in the thriving business, social and artistic communities of the metropolitan area.
- The University's mission of teaching, research and service is felt throughout the state, the nation and the world. To ensure that this legacy continues, the University has embarked on an aggressive strategic plan to make this great University even greater.



Coffman Union Building



Campus



Twin Cities

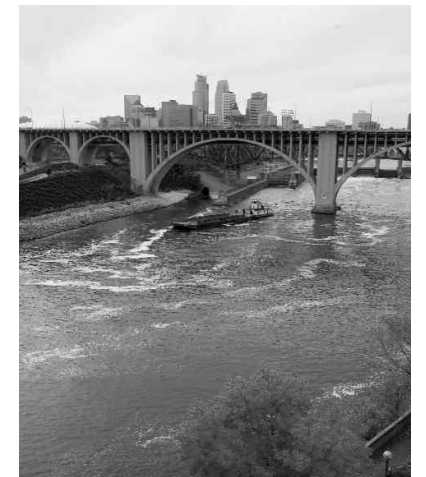


Twin Cities Facts

- The Twin Cities metro area has a population of over 2.5 million and is the nation's 14th-largest media market
- Minneapolis was named the "Most Fun City in America" by *Money Magazine's* "Best Places to Live"
- *Men's Fitness* ranked Minneapolis as the "Most Athletic City" in 2006. The magazine annually ranks Minneapolis as one of the "Fittest" cities, including a No. 4 ranking in 2007.
- The Twin Cities boast all four major sports franchises (NFL, NBA, NHL, MLB)
- The Twin Cities are home to 130 art galleries and 35 museums
- 20 Fortune 500 companies are located in the Twin Cities
- *Cooking Light* named Minneapolis the fourth-best American city that best fit a philosophy to eat smart, be fit, and live well.
- A 2004 University of Wisconsin-Whitewater study revealed Minneapolis as the "Most Literate City" in America
- *Entrepreneur* ranked the Twin Cities as the No. 1 large city for entrepreneurs
- *Population Connection* ranked Minneapolis as the fifth-best "kid friendly" large city
- *Kiplinger's* rated Minneapolis No. 2 on its "50 Smart Places To Live" list
- Minnesota has been ranked as the healthiest state by United Health Foundation for three straight years
- *Men's Journal* rated the Twin Cities as one of the "50 Best Places To Live" in 2006
- Five Minnesota hospitals, led by Mayo Clinic, made *U.S. News & World Report's* 2005 lists of the nation's top hospitals.

Only In The Twin Cities

- The largest enclosed mall in the country, the Mall of America
- Second-most theater seats per capita behind New York City
- More golfers per capita than any city in the country
- Over 52 blocks of downtown Minneapolis are connected by skyway



Entertainment

Sports, Music, Arts, Outdoors



Adrian Peterson, Minnesota Vikings



Marian Gabork, Minnesota Wild

Pro Sports, Concerts, Outdoors

- Target Center (downtown Minneapolis) and Xcel Energy Center (downtown St. Paul) both seat over 19,000 spectators and host hundreds of sporting events and concerts each year.
- The Twin Cities are home to the Timberwolves (NBA), Vikings (NFL), Twins (MLB) and Wild (NHL).
- The Twin Cities also play host to professional soccer, women's basketball, lacrosse and minor league baseball.
- Minnesota has over 15,000 lakes that boast some of the country's finest fishing and boating.
- The Twin Cities' thousands of recreational areas and trails make it one of the top outdoor destinations.

Justin Morneau, Minnesota Twins



Seimone Augustus, Minnesota Lynx



Ryan Ward, Minnesota Swarm

Top Concerts

► Beyoncé, Coldplay, Snoop, Kenny Chesney and Green Day are just a few of the hundreds of top shows that visited the Twin Cities recently.

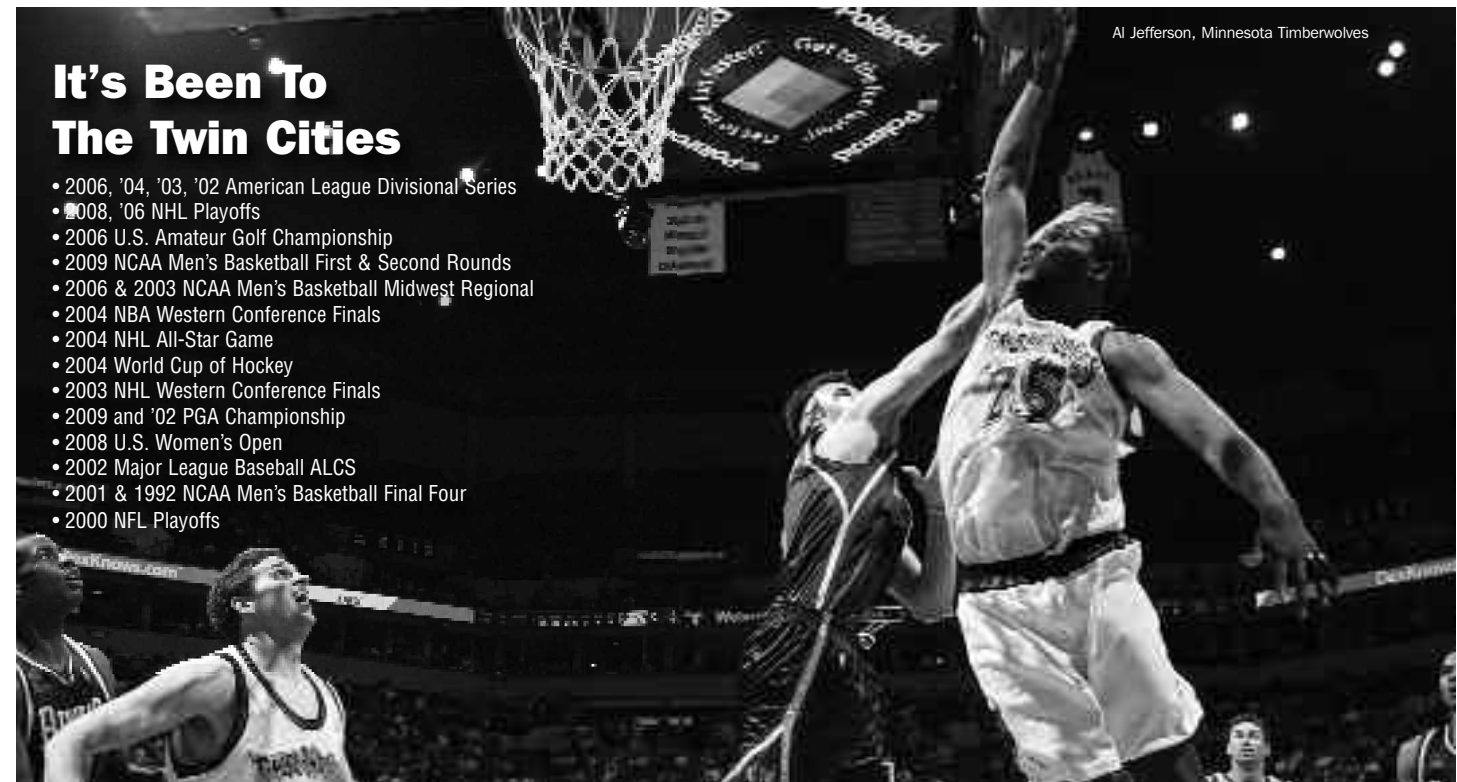


Outdoor Options

► The Twin Cities offer endless outdoor sporting activities including fishing, boating, camping, skiing, golfing and biking to name a few. The Cities are covered with trails and thousands of lakes set to entertain any outdoor enthusiast.

It's Been To The Twin Cities

- 2006, '04, '03, '02 American League Divisional Series
- 2008, '06 NHL Playoffs
- 2006 U.S. Amateur Golf Championship
- 2009 NCAA Men's Basketball First & Second Rounds
- 2006 & 2003 NCAA Men's Basketball Midwest Regional
- 2004 NBA Western Conference Finals
- 2004 NHL All-Star Game
- 2004 World Cup of Hockey
- 2003 NHL Western Conference Finals
- 2009 and '02 PGA Championship
- 2008 U.S. Women's Open
- 2002 Major League Baseball ALCS
- 2001 & 1992 NCAA Men's Basketball Final Four
- 2000 NFL Playoffs



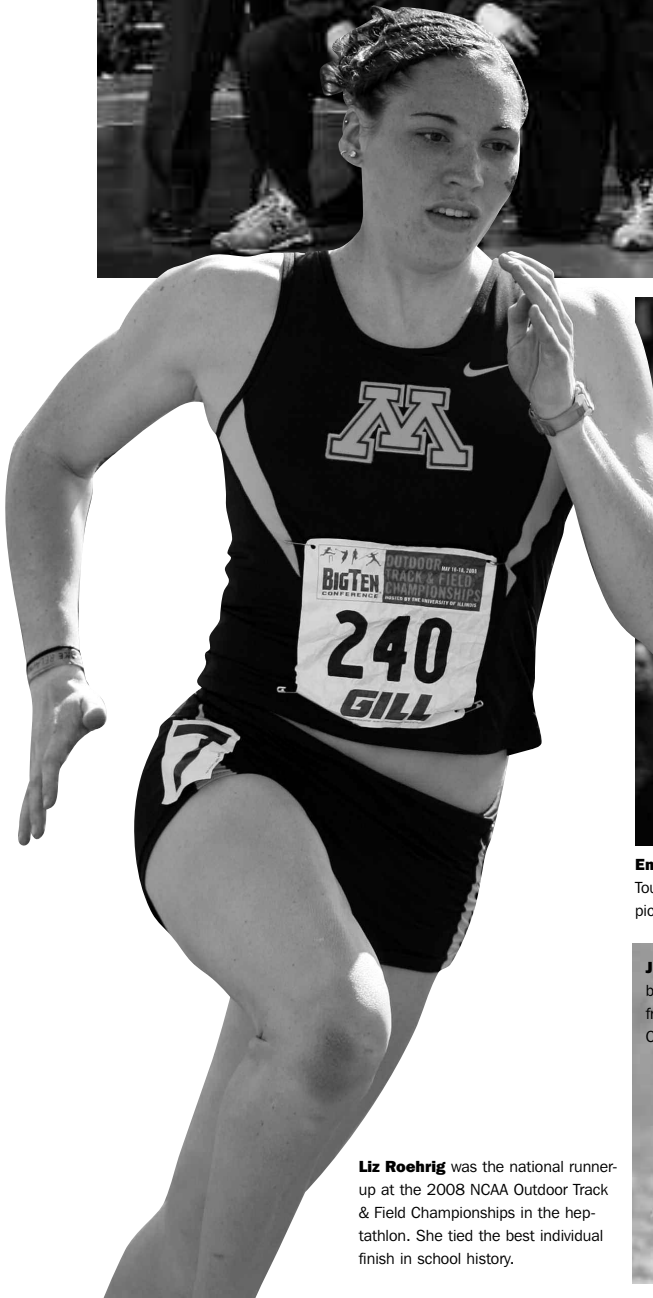
Al Jefferson, Minnesota Timberwolves

Athletic Excellence

23 National Championships



Wrestling won the last Minnesota national title, claiming the 2007 NCAA crown for its third title since 2001.



Emily Fox led Minnesota to the 2008 NCAA Tournament and was a First Team All-Big Ten pick.



Jayson Ness was the national runner-up at the 2008 NCAA Championships in the 125-pound weight class.



All-Big Ten baseball performer Matt Nohelty was named a first team Academic All-American in 2008.



Jillian Tyler was the national runner-up in the 100 breaststroke and was a four-time All-American as a freshman. She earned a berth on the 2008 Canadian Olympic Team in Beijing as well.

Liz Roehrig was the national runner-up at the 2008 NCAA Outdoor Track & Field Championships in the heptathlon. She tied the best individual finish in school history.



Junior Gigi Marvin was a 2007-08 All-American and was a Patty Kazmaier Award finalist as the nation's top player.

CHAMPIONSHIPS

23	National Championships won by Minnesota overall
8	National Championships won since 2001
31	Big Ten/WCHA conference regular season or tournament titles won in the last seven years.
10	Big Ten/WCHA conference regular season titles won in the last two years.
164	All-Time Regular Season Big Ten/WCHA Championships

ACHIEVEMENTS

40	Student-Athletes earned All-America honors in 2007-08
20	CoSIDA Academic All-District selections in 2007-08
12	Straight top 30 finishes in the U.S. Sports Academy Director's Cup measuring overall athletic prowess.
29	Academic All-Americans over the last five years.



Freshman Hassan Mead was a first team All-American at the 2008 NCAA Outdoor Track & Field Championships and 2007 NCAA Cross Country Championships.



In 2007, Minnesota won its third Big Ten men's golf title since 2002.



Minnesota claimed its first Big Ten women's Cross Country title in 2007.



The Gophers won the 2008 Big Ten Women's Swimming & Diving title for the first time since 2000.

Life Skills



Champs/Life Skills

Program History

In 1991, the NCAA Foundation initiated efforts to create a total development program for student-athletes. Through the collaborative efforts of the NCAA Foundation and the Division I-A Athletic Director's Association, the CHAMPS/Life Skills Program (Challenging Athletes Minds for Personal Success) was created. Today, the NCAA Education Outreach staff oversees the development of the program, offering services, support and programs to participating institutions throughout the year. The CHAMPS/Life Skills Program is supported through the promotional and financial efforts of the NCAA Foundation and the NCAA national office.



PEYTON OWENS
Director of Student-Athlete Welfare

University of Minnesota Life Skills Program

The Life Skills Program at the University Of Minnesota includes many programs all designed to help make the student-athlete's experience a positive one. The CHAMPS/Life Skills program is an NCAA sponsored program designed to focus on the total development of the student-athlete. Part of the mission of the Athletic Department is to encourage student-athletes to achieve excellence in their academic and athletic pursuits.



ANISSA LIGHTNER
Assistant Director of Student-Athlete Welfare

In an effort to assist our student-athletes further, the program is designed to give a comprehensive approach to providing educational experiences and services which focus on the individual. We presently utilize: a freshman orientation course, personal development programs, Golden Career Opportunities, various community outreach efforts, and our Student Athlete Advisory Committee (S.A.A.C.) to impact the lives of our young men and women.



RACHEL MCKESSOCK
Coordinator of Student-Athlete Welfare

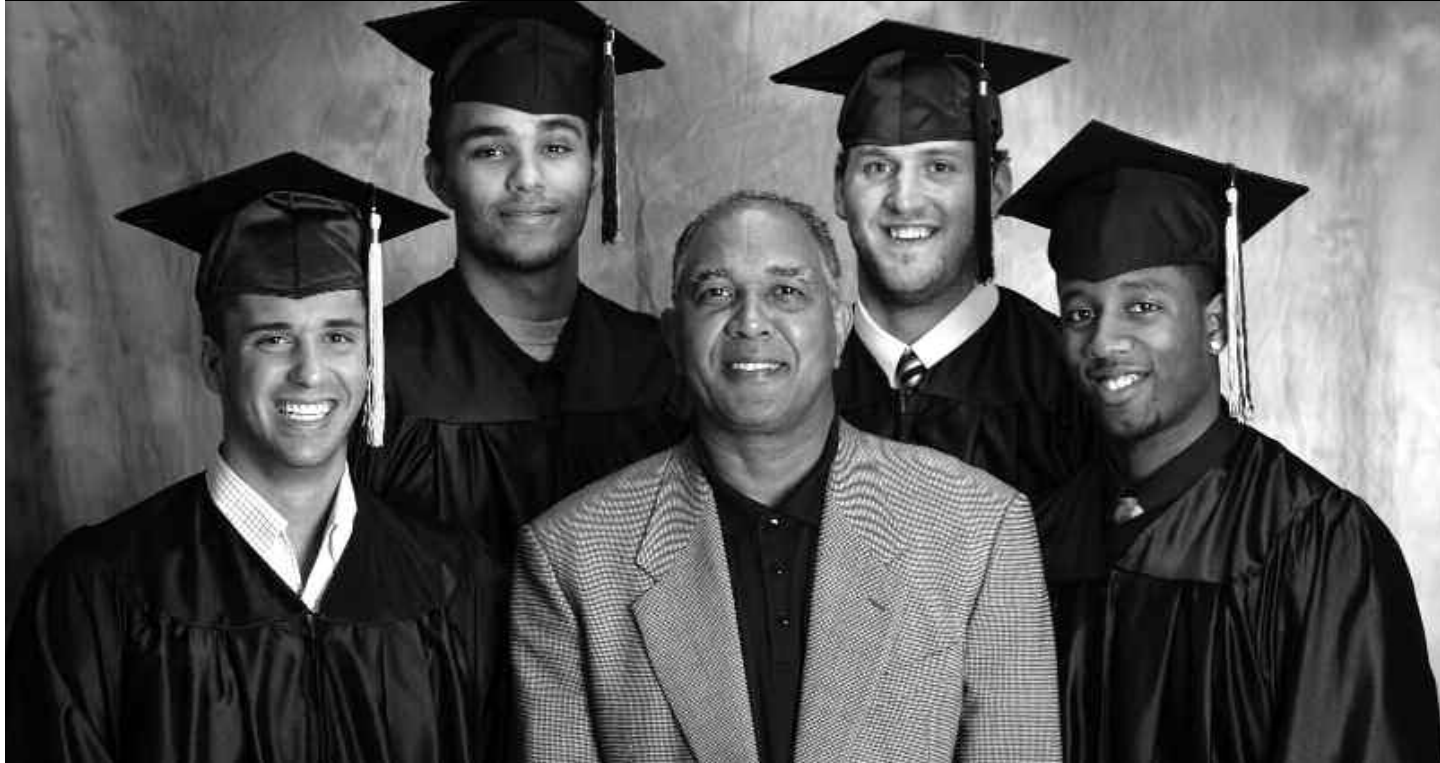
Gopher involvement in the CHAMPS/Life Skills Program helps student-athletes enhance the quality of their experience here within the university setting. We are also supplied with instructional materials and supplemental resources which support our student-athletes' development within the CHAMPS/Life Skills Commitment Statements' five key areas: academic excellence, athletic excellence, personal development, career development, and community service.

Golden Goldys

The annual student-athlete awards gala, similar to the ESPYs format, honors the male and female athlete of the year, rookie of the year, breakthrough athlete of the year and coach of the year.

Academics

All Four of Minnesota's Seniors Earn Degrees During Coach Smith's First Season



U of M Academic Facts

- The University of Minnesota is ranked among the top six public research universities in the nation, according to a recent study by the University of Florida.
- The University's Twin Cities campus offers more than 160 majors for undergraduates. The campus and community offer unparalleled opportunities for undergraduate research, internships, and other co-curricular activities which enrich and deepen the learning experience. The University of Minnesota experience is all about learning new things, making life-long connections, and preparing for a successful future.
- University departments, such as geography, psychology, chemical engineering, mechanical engineering, management information systems, and economics rank among the top 10 in the nation, according to the National Research Council.
- *U.S. News & World Report* ranked 34 of Minnesota's graduate programs in the top 25 nationally in 2007. The Center For Measuring University Performance ranked 24 of the U of M's research-doctorate programs in the top 25 in 2006.
- A record 225 Minnesota student-athletes were named Academic All-Big Ten during the 2007-08 academic year.
- Over 330 U of M student-athletes maintained a 3.0 cumulative grade point average or better while 47 held a perfect 4.0 GPA during the 2007-08 academic year.



Jenny Shaughnessy (swimming), Erica Niemiec (rowing), Seijen Takamura (track), Cole Young (diving), Jeff Tow-Arnett (football), Jade Beattie (gymnastics) and Mike Frankberg (football) were named Top Five Student-Athletes in 2008. They were joined by Heather Dorniden (track), Matt Nohelly (baseball) and Hailey McCarthy (soccer). They each owned one of the top five cumulative GPAs among all student-athletes with at least a junior academic standing at the U of M.



The men's cross country team and the women's golf team earned the 2007-08 Outstanding Team Academic Awards.



McNamara Academic Center

- Recently renovated center features:
- State-of-the-art equipment
- Two computer labs
- 10 tutor rooms and classrooms
- Media room
- Library and resource room
- Administrative suite housing Academic Counseling and Student Services staff



Athletics Facilities

