

WMGF News

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December 31, 2024

Season Preview

by Head Coach Eli Richardson

As the Washington Men's Gymnastics team prepares for the 2025 season, anticipation is building for what promises to be an exciting year. With a mix of experienced athletes and rising stars, the team is poised to make a strong showing both regionally and nationally. Here's a look at what's in store for this season.

Key Returning Athletes

- **Riley Lineman (Jr):** The new Team Captain, Riley is a utility athlete poised to be one of the strongest all-around competitors this season.
- **Trevor Ruggeri (Sr):** Returning Team Captain for his senior year, Trevor continues to be one of the most detail-oriented athletes with the cleanest lines you will see on the team and in the entire league.
- **Bradley Stroud (Sr):** Senior and Team Captain, Bradley is coming off an injury that prohibited him from retaining his National all-around title last season. He is more than hungry to get back to competition.
- **Carter Hawthorne (Sr):** Eager to keep his national pommel horse title.
- **Zachary Murray (Jr):** The Still Rings National Champion and a rising all-around competitor, Zachary brings a combination of power and precision that sets him apart. His championship experience will be invaluable this season.

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The Washington Men's Gymnastics Foundation is a non-profit organization that exists to assist the Men's Gymnastics Team at the University of Washington.



Bradley Stroud

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New Freshmen Faces to Watch

- **Eli Deehr:** An all-around rising freshman eager to contribute to the team on all events.
- **Jaxon Eastwood:** Looking to be the next pommel horse and potential vault specialist the team desperately needs.
- **Jonah Hahn:** A dynamic pommel horse specialist. Jonah's quick twitch and speed make him poised to show out on pommel horse this year. He is also deceptively strong, training other events such as rings.

Key Competitions

The 2025 schedule includes several major events where the team will look to showcase their skills:

- **Washington Open:** As host team, Washington will aim to defend their home turf in front of a supportive crowd against Western Conference rivals Arizona Men's Gymnastics. This competition will be January 11 at Alaska Airlines Arena.
- **Mavericks Invite:** A pivotal meet that will set the tone for competitions on the road will be the team's first head-to-head against the Rocky Mountain Mavericks on their home turf in Lafayette, Colorado.
- **GymACT National Championships:** The team aims to again qualify for Nationals, building on last year's strong showing. The championships will be held in Salt Lake City, Utah the weekend of May 10.

(Continued on page 2)

Season Preview

(Continued from page 1)

Areas of Focus

As Head Coach, I have emphasized clean execution and mental toughness as key areas for improvement this season. We have the talent to compete at a high level; our focus is on increasing difficulty while maintaining our attention to detail and staying composed under pressure.

Outlook for 2025

With a balanced mix of experienced leaders and enthusiastic newcomers, the Washington Men's Gymnastics team is well-positioned for a successful 2025 Season. Fans can expect a season full of thrilling routines, hard-fought competitions, and moments of brilliance from this dedicated group of athletes.

Selfless Acts

Our team not only will undertake challenges on the competition floor but this season has really already start-

ed with them undertaking the most labor-intensive fundraising workload ever witnessed by this foundation. At the conclusion of this season the Washington Men's Gymnastics team will have supported over eight different junior girls gymnastics competitions, six collegiate gymnastics competitions, two high school competitions, one Washington Men's USAG State Championships, six home Husky Football games, two Husky Track and Field meet clean-ups, plus an estimated 800 more man-hours of labor in efforts to support the University, local club gyms and high schools. The physical and mental demands this puts on the team on top of their school, family, gymnastics goals, and other extracurricular commitments is unimaginable.

Join the Excitement

Be sure to follow the Washington Men's Gymnastics team throughout the season and cheer them on as they aim for new heights in 2025!

Happy Holidays from Your 2024-2025 Huskies!

SENIORS



Andrew Layman, Carter Hawthorne, Xander Agate, Trevor Ruggeri, Galen Hernandez, Bradley Stroud, Oscar Coromina Pujol

JUNIORS



Zachary Murray, Drake Miesel, Everett O'Donnell, Riley Lineman, Drew Allen

SOPHOMORES



Adrián Facundo, Judah Hirschman, Jack Miller, Joshua Lutz

FRESHMEN



Jaxon Eastwood, Jonah Hahn, Charles Cady, Eli Deehr

Meet the Freshmen

A big welcome to the newest additions to our Husky Gymnastics family!

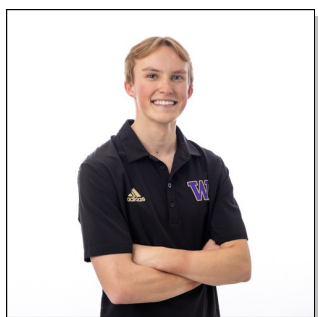


Charles Cady

Hometown: Seattle, WA
Previous Gym: Cascade Elite / Coastal Realm Gymnastics
Events: FX, SR, PB, HB



Currently pursuing a AS transfer degree at North Seattle College with the intention to transfer into the University of Washington. He plans to enter either the school of mechanical or electrical engineering and get a bachelors degree with a minor in applied mathematics.



Eli Deehr

Hometown: Bothell, WA
Previous Gym: Metropolitan Gymnastics
Events: All-Around

Currently a first-year engineering student at the University of Washington. His favorite events are floor and high-bar, but hopes to eventually compete all events for UW.



Jaxon Eastwood

Hometown: Eugene, OR
Previous Gym: National Academy of Artistic Gymnastics
Events: PH,VT



Studying Wildlife Conservation at Shoreline Community College and is planning to transfer to the University of Washington after graduating with his Associates Degree. After that, he plans to continue his education at UW for another 3 years to get his Masters degree to pursue a career in wildlife conservation habitat restoration.



Jonah Hahn

Hometown: Renton, WA
Previous Gym: Metropolitan Gymnastics
Events: PH, SR VT



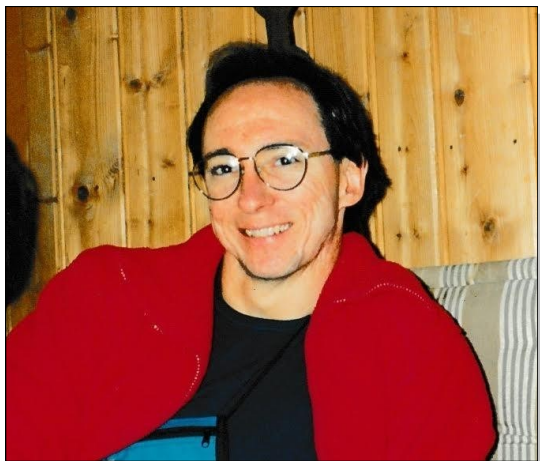
Studying Communications at Shoreline Community College to achieve an Associates Degree, and then wants to transfer into the University of Washington to pursue Communications to earn his Bachelor's Degree. He loves music and loves to play the piano.

In Memoriam: Remembering Friend of the Huskies **Ken Madden**

by *Mark Russo and Monica Moravec*

It was with great sorrow that I heard of the passing of Ken Madden, who was one of the gypsy alumni who used to come in and work out with the team back when I was on the team. As Husky team members, we were always very thankful for the alumni from other schools who came to our gym to work out and give us some good coaching advice as well. Ken was part of the group that included Cam Oliva, Shawn Skerrett, and James Hattori. Ken embedded himself in the local gymnastics commu-

Ken was born in Boston, MA in August 1958, the fourth of six children. His early years were spent with extended family in the area and playing hockey on the neighborhood ice rink. During this period he started camping and hiking with friends, his initial introduction to the great outdoors.



Ken in 1990

Ken's high school years were spent in the Atlanta area and his school had a gymnastics team which was his introduction to the sport. Ken went on to attend Georgia Tech for their engineering program and their gymnastics team, 1976-1980. His college years were a balance of the engineering curriculum and gymnastics practice.

After college, Ken worked in the Atlanta area for two years while he considered a move to the Pacific Northwest. It was after his move to Seattle that Ken renewed his interest in gymnastics and began judging boy's JO meets with Jim Adams, Jeff Tretheway, and others throughout the PNW. This experience introduced Ken to the many local gyms, and eventually the old Hec Ed gymnastics gym at UW.

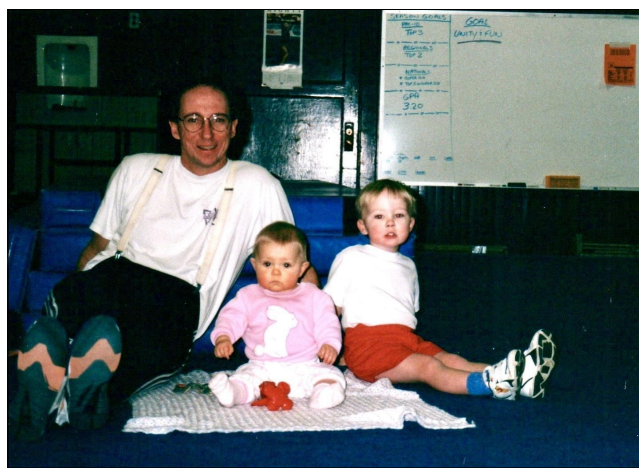
nity by becoming a judge and also a coordinator of the USA-Canada exchange meet. He gave generously to gymnastics, and always gave a positive spin to the gymnastics we were doing.

The following was written by Ken's wife, Monica, and gives a brief history of Ken and his path through gymnastics. He will be missed. To his spirit I say, "Ganba, Ken!"

- *Mark Russo*

The "old" Hec Ed Pavilion is where Ken met many of the UW gymnasts and other former gymnasts (Cam Oliva, James Hattori, Shawn Skerrett, Luna Family), UW team, and coaches. Ken loved having access to equipment that allowed him to continue working out in a sport he enjoyed.

Eventually family life (two children, graduate school, the mountains called) took over Ken's life and he shifted his energy from gymnastics to supporting his family's interests, including our daughter's many years of gymnastics at SPU. Through Ken's involvement in The Mountaineers, our family camped and backpacked throughout Washington. Ken went on to teach several courses for The Mountaineers including winter camping, crevasse rescue, and emergency winter bivouac.



Ken with his kids at the Hec Ed gym in 1998

Ken was a learner and teacher and he led his life with unwavering respect and humility. He was a college gymnast, civil engineer, backcountry skier, and mountaineer. Ken was loved by many and loved his family and friends.

THANK YOU!

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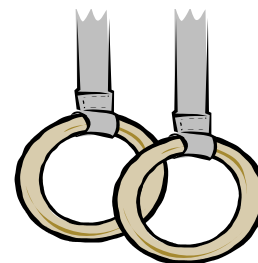
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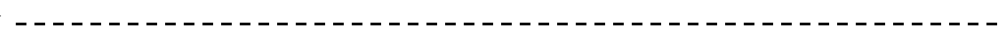
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In Memoriam: Ken Madden

He is survived by his spouse, Monica Moravec, children Ryan Madden and Kelly Madden, his father, and four siblings.



Ken, daughter Kelly, wife Monica, and son Ryan



Ken in his mountaineering element



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5529 27th Ave. NE
Seattle, WA 98105



In This Issue...

Season Preview, Meet the Freshmen, and more...

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2025 SCHEDULE

January 11	Washington Open - Seattle, WA
January 18	AT Windy City Invite - Chicago, IL
January 25	Next ERA - Seattle, WA
February 8	AT Maverick Invite - Lafayette, CO
February 22	AT Southwest Cup - Chandler, AZ
April 5	AT GymACT All Stars - Pittsburg, PA*
April 26	AT Western Championships - Reno, NV
May 10	AT National Championships - Salt Lake City, UT