November 1994

Washington Men's Gymnastics

SEASON OVERVIEW

Records Fall as Huskies gain National Exposure

he 1993-94 season was a great success for the Huskies. The team continued to demonstrate that the University of Washington is the leader in Men's Collegiate Club gymnastics. School records were broken, national titles were won, and a home meet against a PAC-10 school was hosted for the first time in the club's history this past year.

The season started out in November at the Rocky Mountain Open hosted by the US Air Force Academy. In December the team traveled to College Park, Pennsylvania where the team competed against Penn State, Michigan, and Kent State.

The season continued in early 1994 at the Windy City Invitational hosted by University of Illinois, Chicago. The team pulled together for an excellent meet and beat out the varsity program from Iowa State. Two weeks later, **Mike Williams** and **Mark Oliver** competed in the Winter Cup at the Olympic Training Center. Both Mike and Mark had outstanding meets narrowly missing making the US Senior Elite Development team.

Following the Winter Cup, the team traveled down to UC Berkeley where they competed in a triangular meet against UCB and UCSB.

One of the season's many highlights came a week later with the club's first home meet against a PAC -10 school. The newly formed club team (consisting of scholarship athletes) from Arizona State came up from Phoenix to compete against the Huskies in a dual meet. The capacity



JEFF JOHNSON - UW RING RECORD HOLDER: 9.75 AT 1994 COLLEGIATE CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS

crowd of over 500 people packed the Pavilion Annex to watch an exciting competition. Outstanding performances were turned in by the entire squad to bring the Huskies within striking distance of the new club team from Arizona State.

Two months later at USA Gymnastics Collegiate Club Championships near Dallas, Texas, the club put in another great performance. The Huskies improved their team total by 18 points over last year for a season high of 258.9. This score put the Huskies second to Arizona State and well ahead of all the other club teams. Excellent performances by Daniel Luna, Marc Hager, Drew Grow, Dane Boysen, Tristan Goldman, and Bryan Kennedy along with the boisterous cheering from teammates Trevor Green, Craig Magaret, Christian Hodneland, and Sawyer Gillespie, led to our success.

Outstanding performances were also turned in by freshman **Jeff Johnson** who broke the *school record* on Rings with a 9.75!! **Mark Oliver** broke the *school record* on Parallel Bars with a 9.7 and finished 4th in the All Around. **Karl Huntzicker** became the *National USA Gymnastics High Bar Champion* and placed fifth in the All Around.

Truly an excellent year!!



SENIOR SENDOFF

Huskies Bid Farewell to Seniors





Mike Williams

Mark Oliver

he Huskies said good-bye this past year to two of the most successful Washington gymnasts ever to come through the program. Mike Williams from Idaho and Mark Oliver from Seattle both entered the program in 1989 and redshirted their freshman year.

Under the coaching of **Mark Russo**, Mike and Mark (Oliver) rose to the top echelon of gymnasts in the country. They competed at USA Championships in 1991, 1992, and 1993 and at Winter Nationals (a.k.a. Winter Cup) in 1991, 1992, 1993, and 1994. Mike and Mark led the team to the National Club Championship in 1993 and Mark led the team to a second place finish in 1994.

Mike Williams has since married Becky Marsh and the two reside in Albuquerque, NM. Mike trains at Gold Cup Gymnastics and is shooting for the 1996 Olympics in Atlanta.

Mark Oliver is also shooting for the Atlanta games. He continues to train at a local club and is assistant coach for the Huskies.

We wish them both the best!

Washington Men's Gymnastics

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Looking to the Future

he Huskies are looking forward to another great year. This year we welcome freshman Barent Hoffman to the team. Barent is a gymnast from Puyallup, Washington who plans to compete on Pommel Horse, Rings, Parallel Bars, and High Bar. He will give the team an extra boost and contribute to the success of the program.

Returning this year will be seniors Daniel Luna, Karl Huntzicker, Craig Magaret and Christian Hodneland. Dane Boysen, Bryan Kennedy, Marc Hager, and Drew Grow will return as juniors. Rounding out the returning gymnasts are sophomores Jeff Johnson, Tristan Goldman, Trevor Green and Sawyer Gillespie.

These Huskies will be put to the test next year with an excellent meet schedule in the works. Our first competition will be on January 8 at the University of Washington. This will be the Washington Open (a joint meet with age group gymnasts from around the region). The remaining meets include competitors such as Navy, UCLA, Arizona State, Michigan, Illinois and Wisconsin. These meets are listed on the enclosed meet schedule. More information can be received by calling Karl Huntzicker at (206) 522-6271. Please come and show your support for the Huskies.

Another great development in club gymnastics is an exciting new men's club gymnastics conference announced this past summer. The conference will consist of five club teams from the western United States. The initial members include Washington, Gold Cup, Olympic Training Center, Arizona State, and UCLA. In the future, this will translate into more home competitions with the members of this new conference. Look for the Huskies to continue to lead the revolution in collegiate club gymnastics.





Husky goes "Down Under"

ashington gymnast Ignacio Morales competed for his home country of Bolivia in his third World Championships this past April. This year Worlds were held across the ocean in Brisbane, Australia

Ignacio Morales

Ignacio Morales has trained at the University of Washington for the past five years under head

coach Mark Russo. In 1991 Ignacio competed in his first World Championships in Indianapolis Ind. Two years later in 1993, he traveled to England to compete in his second Worlds.

This past year Ignacio found himself traveling to Brisbane, Australia for his third Worlds. After competing for the Huskies during the regular season, Ignacio was prepared for one of the most important competitions of his life.

After recovering from "jet lag", Ignacio felt better than he had in months and was ready to take on the world. He had his best competition of the season and impressed many people. He was able to compete side by side with such gymnastic greats as Vitaly Scherbo, Gregori Misutin, and Yuri Chechi. Congratulations IGGY!

Ignacio will continue to practice at the University of Washington even though his collegiate eligibility has expired. He hopes to once again represent Bolivia in international competition.

Booster Club is Formed

n exciting new chapter has begun in Washington Men's Gymnastics. This past summer saw the creation of Washington Men's Gymnastics Booster Club (WMG). WMG Booster Club is a non-profit organization created to assist the Huskies with their non-university affiliated fundraising. The money raised by the booster club would go towards creating a paid coaching position, equipment purchases, and travel. Essentially it would compliment the current fundraising done through the university.

The booster club is controlled by a Board of Directors consisting of alumni gymnasts, current gymnasts, community business people, and parents. The current board members are the following:

Dr. Eric Hughes - former head coach and founder of Men's Gymnastics at UW

Melvin Cooley - UW Hall of Fame gymnast and 1978 NCAA High Bar Champion

Cam Oliva - alumni gymnast and community businessman

Carolyn Pingator-Holmes - alumni gymnast and expert fund-raiser

Linda Luna - parent of current gymnast Daniel Luna

Gary O'Leyar - Community business liaison

Mark Oliver - alumni gymnast and assistant coach

Karl Huntzicker - current gymnast

Most of you will receive information about the booster club in the next couple of weeks. If you have any questions or would like to assist us in any matter please contact us at:

> Washington Men's Gymnastics Booster Club PO Box 95001 Seattle, WA 98105

or call Karl Huntzicker at (206) 522-6271