

Three Minnesota golf records are still held by former Gopher Kathy Williams. Now entering her seventh year as the head women's golf coach at Minnesota, Williams adds a fourth



record - she is the longest-serving golf coach in the history of the women's athletics department. Williams' longevity provides continuity, guidance, direction and stability to the team.

Under Williams' care, team members have been named Big Ten All-Academic 16 times, All-Big Ten nine times, Patty Berg Academic Award winners 41 times and All-Midwest District once. Williams has led the Gophers to the NCAA East Regional Championship twice in the four-year history of the championship.

Besides coaching at the collegiate level, Williams gives her time to high school youth. She is a three-time instructor at the NCAA Youth Involvement through Sports Clinics (YES Clinic) in connection with the 1993, 1995 and 1996 NCAA women's golf championships. Williams was named both the Big Ten and Midwest Region Coach of the Year in 1992. She is currently a member of the NCAA Awards Committee and a member of the Midwest Coach of the Year selection committee.

A member of the Ladies Professional Golf Association tour in 1984-85, Williams brings a wealth of professional and amateur experience to her coaching.

Williams was a member of the Minnesota women's golf team from 1977 to 1981 and held nearly every individual mark in the school record book. She still has three in her name: most career tournament wins (17), most titles in one year (6) and low 36-hole score (143). Williams shared in Minnesota's first Big Ten Conference team title in 1978. She was the first Minnesota woman to be named an Evans Scholar.

A four-year golfer at La Crescent High School, Williams won the first Minnesota state high school girls' championship. She competed her freshman through junior years in high school on the boys' team since LaCrescent did not have a girls' team until her senior year. As a ninth-grader, Williams played in the state boys' championship.

As a player, Williams prepared herself for competition by "knowing my golf swing and knowing myself," she said. "A different type of 'knowing' is needed as a coach. I need to know each individual player to bring out their best talents and abilities."



A Look at Head Coach Kathy Williams

Born: September 22, 1959 in LaCrosse, Wis.

Education: La Crescent (Minn.) High School, 1977.

University of Minnesota, B.S. in Recreation, 1982.

Professional Accomplishments:

- NCAA YES Clinic instructor, 1993, 1995, 1996.
- Member of NCAA Awards Committee.
- Member of Midwest Coach of the Year selection committee.
- Big Ten Coach of the Year, 1992.
- Midwest Region Coach of the Year, 1992.
- Head golf professional at Cedar River Country Club, 1990-91.
- Instructor at Root River Country Club, Fischers Driving Range, Rochester Community College, 1989.
- Instructor/Administrator at Northern Hills Golf Club and Red Wing Country Club, 1989.
- Head golf professional at Willow Creek Golf Course, 1988.
- Assistant golf professional at Rochester Golf and Country Club, 1987.
- Rules official LPGA Futures Tour, 1985.
- Assistant golf professional at Lake San Marcos Country Club (California), 1983-85; Winona Country Club, 1982.
- Assistant instructor at University of Minnesota, 1982.
- Instructor/Intern at Billy Casper Golf Camp, 1981.

Coaching Experience

- Head women's golf coach, University of Minnesota, 1991-present.

- Girls golf coach, Lourdes High School, Rochester, Minn., 1988-89.

Pro Golf Accomplishments:

- Reno Classic (WPGT) Champion, 1986.
- Finished in "Top 10 Money List" on WPGT Tour, 1986.
- Finished in "Top 10 Money List" on Futures Golf Tour, 1985.
- Played LPGA Tour, 1984-85.
- Medalist at LPGA Tour School, 1983.

Amateur Golf Accomplishments:

- AIAW All-American, 1981.
- Team captain as sophomore and junior.
- Senior Athlete of the Year, 1981.
- Patty Berg Award recipient, 1981.
- Medalist 17 times, 1977-81.
- Medalist six times in 1977-78 school year.
- Evans Scholar Athlete of the Year, 1981.
- Evans Scholarship Award, 1978, 1981.
- Qualified for National Public Links, 1978.
- Wisconsin Women's Western Champion, 1978.
- Minnesota State High School Champion, 1977.
- USGA National Public Links runner-up, 1977.
- Finished in top 10 at Trans-National, 1980.
- Played in U.S. Amateur, 1980.
- Participated in Patty Berg Classic, 1979, 1980.
- Participated as youngest player ever in U.S. Open, 1977.