

NU's Holling retires, Gould may transfer

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The break was somewhat of a relief for Gould, who said she felt a lot of pressure as captain of the Cornhusker team. Most of the pressure came from Walton, she said.

"If you made one mistake," Gould said, "you weren't his (Walton's) friend any more. As team captain, if I made a mistake it would reflect on the whole team, so he said.

"We had our problems working with him. It was mostly with the upperclassmen and I don't know why that's so. The freshmen all go along with him. I guess they haven't figured out what he was doing yet."

'I thought this whole thing was handled rudely. It turned me off gymnastics.'

— Holling

An injury also shortened Holling's college gymnastics career. She suffered a fracture on her lower back — the result of several falls since she started competing in gymnastics 12 years ago.

The injury grew worse last season. Ice packs and whirlpool baths no longer eased the pain, Holling said. She continued to compete, she said, because the team was short on personnel in certain events.

Walton, she said, encouraged her to compete despite the injury.

"I've injured my back a lot worse," Holling said. "I should have only worked a couple of events. I was pushed harder than I should have.

"It hurts all the time. Now I don't even want anything to do with gymnastics."

Holling has returned to Nebraska this fall to continue her studies. She said she has talked to Missouri coaches about competing in a couple of events, but the injury still leaves some doubt.

Gould, on the other hand, wants to stay in the sport. She will return to her alma mater, Lincoln Northeast, as an assistant coach this fall.

She might even compete again. If enough of her credit hours transfer, she will enroll at North Carolina State at semester break. She said she would compete for a semester and wait for a scholarship to open up next year.

Her wrist, however, is still sore. Gould spent

10 weeks this summer at a Pennsylvania gymnastics camp working it back into shape.

"It feels OK," Gould said, "But I won't be able to work out on bars or vault anymore."

Gym notes:

●Nebraska returns five gymnasts from last year's squad, which finished third in the Big Eight. They are junior Racine Smith and sophomores Crystal Savage, Mary Ocel, Jeaneane Smith and Cathy Cassanos. Jeaneane Smith finished 32nd in the all-around at the NCAA Championships last spring.

They will be joined by scholarship freshmen Tami Bair of Indianapolis, Trisha Albano of Holtsville, N.Y., Jane Clemons of Omaha and Angie Burdette of Greeley, Colo. Sue Laverman of Glendale, Ariz., will walk on.

●Husker women will open the season with an exhibition against the Japanese national team on Dec. 14 at the Bob Devaney Sports Center.

Last year, Nebraska dealt the Japanese their second loss since they began touring the United States in 1984. Penn State was the other team to beat them.

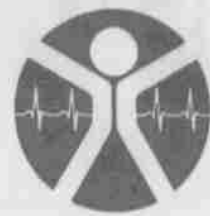
"The meet won't count against our national record and the Japanese throw some pretty good routines," Walton said. "We'll treat it like an intrasquad meet. We won't enter many all-arounders and try to get as many people in there as possible."

'In both cases, it was cut and dry. They couldn't compete with the injury problems they had. We had to open up the scholarships and bring in new people.'

— Walton

●Oklahoma State has dropped its women's gymnastics program, which leaves only four conference schools that still field teams — Nebraska, Oklahoma, Missouri and Iowa State.

Oklahoma State Athletic Director Myron Roderick said budget cuts in the women's athletic program last May forced the sport to be dropped. He said women's gymnastics cost the school \$150,000 a year.



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