

# KELSEY NELLIGAN

5-1 • SR. • ALL-AROUND  
COLLEGE PARK, MD. (ELEANOR ROOSEVELT)

## NELLIGAN ON NELLIGAN:

"Known for her unusual warm-up vault, Kelsey is one of the hardest-working, never-give-up student-athletes I've ever coached. She's our lone senior, and this is her season to shine."

**2008:** Did not see action but trained vault and served as team tri-captain ... continued to serve as a leader and caretaker for underclassmen ... named to EAGL All-Academic team for third consecutive season.

**2007:** Did not see action but trained vault ... received "team mom" award at team banquet for taking good care of the six freshmen ... named to EAGL All-Academic team.

**2006:** Did not see action ... named to EAGL All-Academic team ... honored with The Timex Award at the team banquet.

**Before Maryland:** Member of Hill's Gymnastics in Gaithersburg, Md., which is known for producing Olympians Dominique Dawes and Elise Ray ... A "flyer" on her high school cheerleading squad for three years.

**Personal:** Daughter of Bob (head coach) and Chris Nelligan ... brother, Brett (27), serves as the team's associate head coach ... her father was a gymnast at Massachusetts and her mother was a gymnast at Bridgewater State ... her brother, Brett, participated in gymnastics and swimming & diving at Massachusetts ... member of the National Honor Society, Latin Honor Society and Honor Roll in high school ... named to Dean's List the last three years ... has given back to the community by volunteering as a summer camp counselor and by reading to elementary school children ... hobbies include skiing and playing guitar ... a kinesiology major.

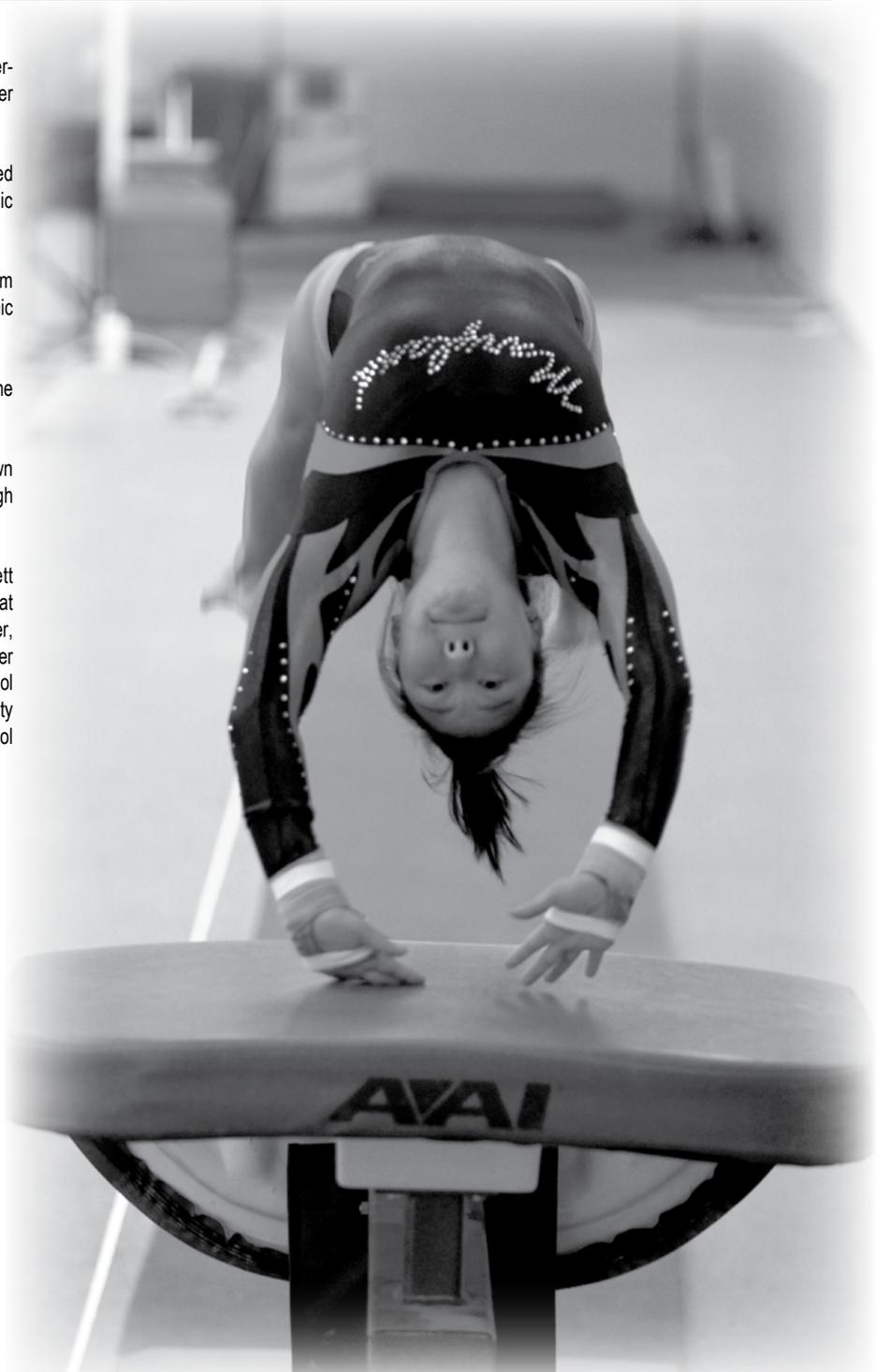
## TERP TALK WITH KELSEY

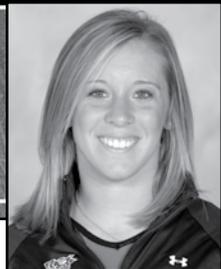
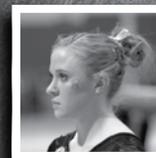
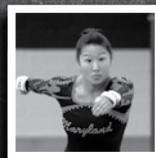
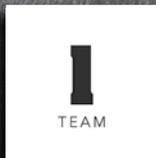
**Most memorable moments as a Maryland gymnast:** Away trips with the team

**Prospective career plans:** Become physician's assistant

**Best part of being a Terrapin Student-Athlete:** The close-knit community

**Most thrilling non-gymnastics moment:** Surfing in Hawaii





# MICHELE BRENNER

5-1 • JR. • ALL-AROUND  
NEW CITY, N.Y. (CLARKSTOWN)

### NELLIGAN ON BRENNER:

"Michele really asserted herself last year, and she is entering this season in great shape yet again. She made an NCAA appearance last season, and she is being counted on for contributing toward our goal of attaining a regional berth in 2009."

**2008:** Completed on floor exercise in all 12 meets, balance beam in 11 meets and uneven bars in eight meets ... qualified individually for the NCAA Southeast Regional Championships in floor exercise ... garnered first team All-EAGL honors in floor exercise and finished fifth in that event at the league meet ... highest score of the season was a 9.900 on floor exercise (vs. Mich, Pitt & Temple, 3/15/08) ... claimed EAGL Specialist of the Week honors for the week ending March 17 ... named to the EAGL All-Academic team.

**2007:** Competed on uneven bars, balance beam and floor exercise in all 12 meets ... highest score on the season was a 9.825 on the beam (3/10/07, vs. UNC) ... named to the EAGL All-Academic team.

**Before Maryland:** Member of Galaxy Gymnastics ... finished fourth on beam, fifth on floor and 13th in all-around at the 2005 Junior Olympic Nationals ... placed second on vault, third on bars, fourth on floor and third in all-around at the 2004 Level 10 regionals ... 2003 New York State vault champion ... three-time *Journal News* Gymnast of the Year

**Personal:** Daughter of Stewart and Ruth Anne Brenner ... has one sister, Stephanie (18) and one brother, Matthew (15) ... member of Varsity Athletes Against Substance Abuse ... earned National Spanish Honor Society Award ... lists Derek Jeter as her favorite athlete because "he is a leader on and off the field with great poise" ... a kinesiology major.

### 2008 HIGHS / CAREER HIGHS

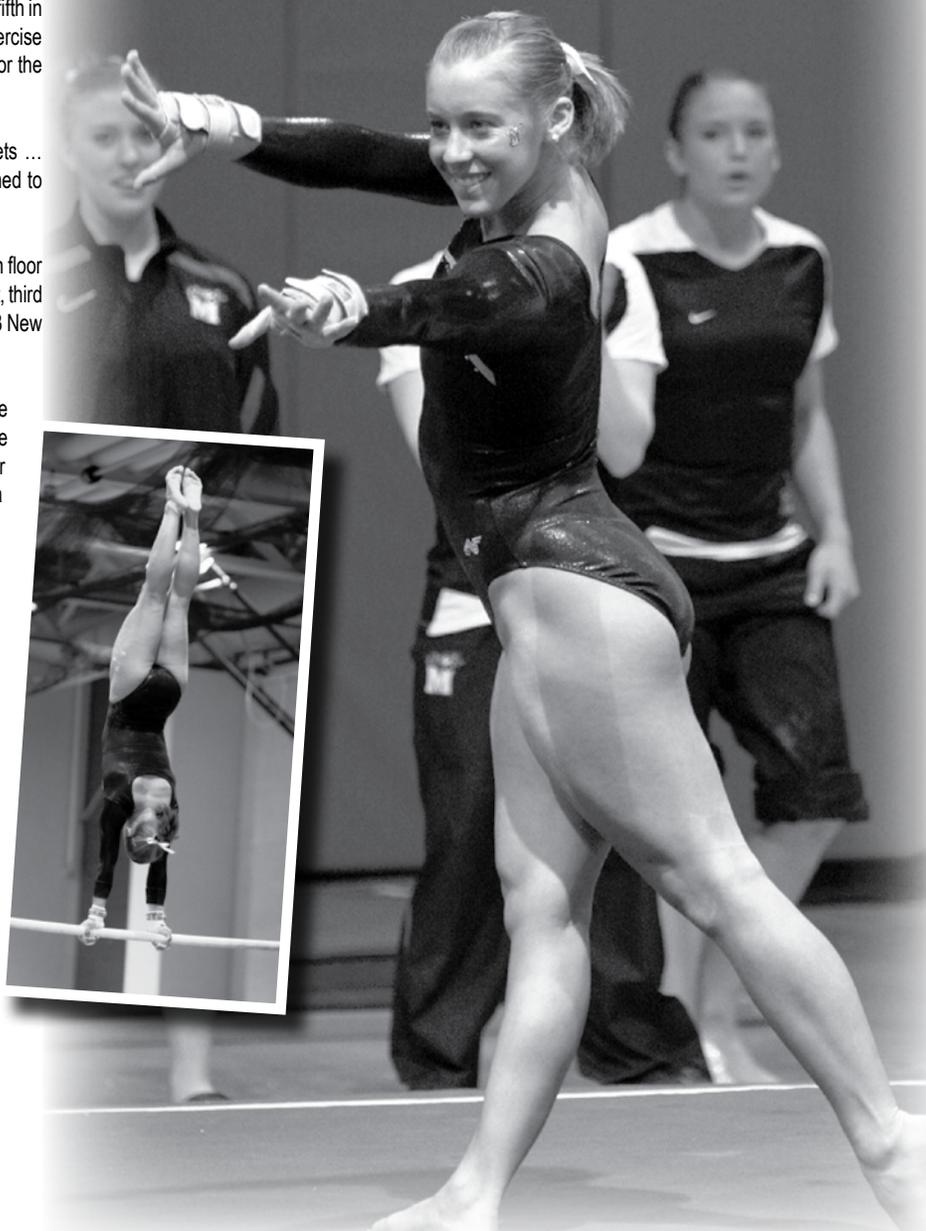
Uneven Bars: 9.600 (vs. OSU, 1/11/08) / 9.675 (vs. UNH, JMU & Temple, 2/23/07)  
Balance Beam: 9.775 (vs. OSU 1/11/08) / 9.825 (vs. North Carolina, 3/10/07)  
Floor Exercise: 9.900 (vs. Mich, Pitt & Temple, 3/15/08) / Same

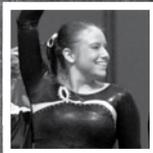
## TERP TALK WITH MICHELE

**Favorite school to compete against:** Denver

**Plans for after graduation:** Graduate school, maybe for physical therapy

**Post-meet ritual:** Going out to eat with my parents





# ALLIE DAMA

5-2 • JR. • ALL-AROUND  
LANSING, MICH. (JW SEXTON)

## NELLIGAN ON DAMA:

"One of the most stylish and mentally tough gymnasts I've worked with. Allie placed eighth at the NCAA Regionals against tough national competition. If we can get her into several more events, her exceptional skills will help elevate us in the NCAA standings."

**2008:** Competed on uneven bars in all 12 meets and balance beam in two meets ... qualified individually for the NCAA Southeast Regional Championships on the uneven bars, tying for eighth place with a score of 9.850 ... earned first team All-EAGL honors in uneven bars and finished second in the event at the league meet ... highest score of the season was a 9.875 on the uneven bars (tri meets on 3/15/08 & 3/21/08) ... named to EAGL All-Academic team.

**2007:** Second team All-EAGL honoree on uneven bars ... competed in the anchor position at all 12 meets ... scored a 9.725 or better eight times ... co-recipient of Timex award at team's banquet ... named to EAGL All-Academic team.

**Before Maryland:** Member of Gedderts' Twisters USA ... two-time Junior Olympic National Team member ... four-time Junior Olympic national qualifier ... 2002 Junior Olympic champion on bars, floor and all-around ... placed third in all-around and second on bars at the 2004 Junior Olympic Nationals ... Michigan Level 10 state all-around champion for six-straight years ... competed for the U.S. in Central America, Europe, Asia and the Caribbean.

**Personal:** Daughter of John and Mary Dama ... has two sisters, Kristen (29) and Katie (26), and one brother, Andy (23) ... sister Katie was a gymnast at Michigan State ... brother Andy is captain of the Michigan State cheerleading squad ... valedictorian of her high school class ... was a member of the National Honor Society and editor of high school yearbook ... hobbies include shopping, dancing and choreographing ... a psychology and pre-medicine major.

## 2008 HIGHS / CAREER HIGHS

**Uneven Bars:** 9.875 (vs. Michigan, Pitt & Temple, 3/15/08, vs. Penn State, Nebraska & Rutgers, 3/21/08) / Same

**Balance Beam:** 9.650 (vs. PSU, Nebraska & Rutgers, 3/21/08) / Same

## TERP TALK WITH ALLIE

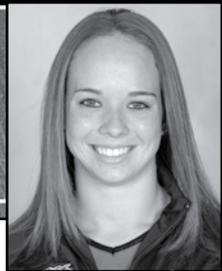
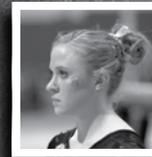
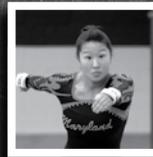
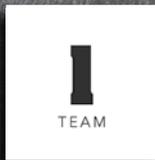
**Favorite Maryland team to watch:** Men's soccer

**Favorite TV shows:** "Grey's Anatomy" and "So You Think You Can Dance?"

**Biggest athletics thrills:** Participating in the 2002 Junior Olympic Nationals and anchoring bars as a freshman at Maryland in 2007

**In 10 years I will be:** Married and working as a successful psychiatrist in a large east coast city





# BRANDI GEORGE

5-3 • JR. • ALL-AROUND  
ORLANDO, FLA. (WILLIAM R. BOONE)



## NELLIGAN ON GEORGE:

"The most determined athlete I have ever worked with. Consistency and toughness are what make her one of Maryland's best ever. She will be counted on once again this season to lead the way."

**2008:** Competed on uneven bars and balance beam in 11 meets and in vault, floor exercise and all-around in 10 meets ... qualified individually for the NCAA Southeast Regional Championships in the all-around ... garnered first team All-EAGL honors in all-around and on balance beam ... a second team All-EAGL recipient in vault ... her vault score of 9.850 during the EAGL Championships tied for the 15th-best in school history ... claimed EAGL Gymnast of the Week honors for the week ending Feb. 25 ... named to the EAGL All-Academic team.

**2007:** Awarded EAGL Rookie of Year ... honored as EAGL Rookie of the Week three times (Feb. 13, Feb. 20 and March 27) ... first team All-EAGL on the balance beam, floor exercise and all-around and second team All-EAGL on the vault ... qualified individually for the NCAA Southeast Regional Championships in the all-around ... at team banquet received Rookie of the Year and Most Valuable Player awards ... named to EAGL All-Academic team.

**Before Maryland:** Member of Orlando Metro Gymnastics ... 2004 Junior Olympic beam champion ... also placed fourth in all-around, sixth on floor and eighth on vault at the 2004 Junior Olympic Nationals ... 2004 Level 10 Florida all-around, bars and floor champion ... was sidelined by injury in 2005 but returned to action in 2006 ... placed fourth on beam and 14th in the all-around at the 2006 Junior Olympic Nationals ... 2006 co-captain of Orlando Metro Level 10 team.

**Personal:** Daughter of Charles and Pamela George (both deceased) ... lists parents as her biggest inspiration ... has two sisters, Brittany (22) and Brooke (18) ... sister Brittany was a gymnast at Ball State ... sister Brooke is a diver at Clemson ... lives with her Aunt Sharon and Uncle Jamie ... ranked eighth in her high school class with a 3.87 GPA ... member of the Math, Spanish and National Honor Societies ... was recruited by Missouri, Auburn, Oklahoma and Louisiana State ... a kinesiology and elementary education major ... recipient of the Louis and Nancy Tacchetti Scholarship.

## 2008 HIGHS / CAREER HIGHS

**Vault:** 9.850 (EAGL Championships, 3/29/08) / Same

**Uneven Bars:** 9.800 (vs. Mich, Pitt & Temple, 3/15/08) / Same & 9.800 (vs. UNH, 2/17/07)

**Balance Beam:** 9.875 (vs. Mich, Pitt & Temple 3/15/08 / Same & 9.875 (vs. UNH, 2/17/07)

**Floor Exercise:** 9.825 (vs. MSU, 2/9/08) / 9.850 (vs. George Washington, 2/8/07; at UNH, 2/17/07; at Towson w/ GWU, 3/16/07)

## TERP TALK WITH BRANDI

**Favorite movie:** "Remember the Titans"

**Favorite band:** Rascal Flatts

**Post-graduation plans:** Be an elementary school teacher

**Why did you choose Maryland?** Beautiful campus, good academics, team and coaches





# CANDICE KING

5-8 • JR. • ALL-AROUND  
PLANO, TEXAS (SPRING CREEK ACADEMY)

## NELLIGAN ON KING:

"Candice has tremendous potential. She was a Junior National vault champion who should return to her championship form and anchor the vault lineup."

**2008:** Competed in vault in 10 meets and uneven bars in four meets ... posted a season-high vault of 9.725 (vs. UNC, UNH & W&M, 3/1/08).

**2007:** Named EAGL Specialist of the Week for the week ending Feb. 13 ... competed on vault and uneven bars in all 12 meets ... tallied a career-best score of 9.900 on the vault (vs. George Washington, 2/8/08), which is tied for the fourth-best mark in school history.

**Before Maryland:** Member of the World Olympic Gymnastics Academy ... 2003 and 2004 Junior Olympic National vault champion ... placed eighth in all-around at 2005 Junior Olympic Nationals ... received 2004 Gymnastics Association of Texas National Honor Award – other recipients of this award include Olympic Champion Carly Patterson and World Champion Nastia Liukin.

**Personal:** Daughter of Cottrell and Terriwanda Faye King ... has one sister, Lakisha (31), who ran track at North Texas ... member of National Honor Society ... 3.8 GPA ... chose Maryland over Arizona, North Carolina and Boise State ... a family science major.

## 2008 HIGHS / CAREER HIGHS

**Vault:** 9.725 (vs. UNC, UNH & W&M, 3/1/08) / 9.900 (vs. George Washington, 2/8/07)

**Uneven Bars:** 9.700 (vs. WVU, 1/18/08) / 9.775 (vs. George Washington, 2/8/07)

**Floor Exercise:** N/A / 8.550 (vs. Pitt with WVU & Michigan State, 1/19/07)

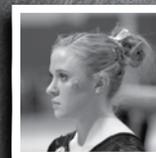
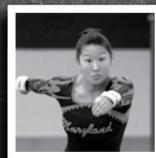
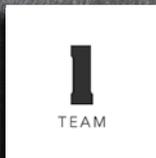
## TERP TALK WITH CANDICE

**The best part about being a Terrapin Student-Athlete is:** Having a built-in set of close friends

**Other favorite sport:** Basketball

**Favorite professional sports team:** Dallas Mavericks





# MARGAUX MEEKS

5-4 • JR. • ALL-AROUND  
WINTER GARDEN, FLA. (DR. PHILLIPS)

## NELLIGAN ON MEEKS:

"Margaux closed out the 2008 season with an emphatic jump. She is an automatic on bars and looks to add several more events to her strong resume. She is in great shape this year and is serving notice on bars that she is ready to help Maryland Gymnastics reach new heights."

**2008:** Competed on uneven bars in all 12 meets, vault in 11 meets and balance beam in one meet ... notched season-high scores of 9.750 for vault (vs. PSU, Nebraska & Rutgers, 3/21/08) and 9.800 for uneven bars (vs. Mich, Pitt & Temple, 3/15/08) ... named to EAGL All-Academic team.

**2007:** Competed in vault and uneven bars in the first seven meets before suffering an injury ... co-recipient of Timex Award at team's banquet ... named the EAGL All-Academic team

**Before Maryland:** Member of Orlando Metro Gymnastics ... placed sixth on vault at the 2004 Junior Olympic Nationals ... Level 10 regional vault and all-around champion in 2005 ... Level 10 regional vault and bar champion in 2004.

**Personal:** Daughter of Monte and Annie Meeks ... has two sisters, Karly (23) and Summer (17) ... competed for same club (Orlando Metro) as teammate Brandi George ... member of Spanish and Social Studies Honor Societies ... student at the Center for International Studies magnet program at her school ... chose Maryland over Michigan State and Ohio State ... an international business and marketing major.

## 2008 HIGHS / CAREER HIGHS

**Vault:** 9.750 (vs. PSU, Nebraska & Rutgers, 3/21/08) / Same

**Uneven Bars:** 9.800 (vs. Mich, Pitt & Temple, 3/21/08) / 9.825 (vs. UNH, 2/17/07)

**Balance Beam:** 9.550 (vs. UNC, UNH & W&M, 3/1/08) / Same

## TERP TALK WITH MARGAUX

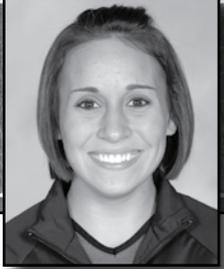
**Favorite food:** Cheese quesadillas

**Future career plans:** Get a job in international business and travel a lot

**Maryland coaching staff's best traits:** They adjust their style of coaching to individual athletes

**Unique team role:** Providing daily motivational quotes on our dry-erase board





# TALIA TOSSONE

4-10 • JR. • ALL-AROUND  
VIRGINIA BEACH, VA. (KELLAM)

## NELLIGAN ON TOSSONE:

"T" has demonstrated consistency on the beam at another level. She has an amazing talent and a style that is unmistakably elite. This could be her breakout year as an all-rounder."

**2008:** Competed on balance beam in all 12 meets, vault in nine meets and floor in five meets ... qualified individually for the NCAA Southeast Regional Championship on the balance beam for the second consecutive season ... claimed first team All-EAGL honor on the balance beam and finished 12th in that event at the league meet ... named to EAGL All-Academic team.

**2007:** Qualified for the NCAA Southeast Regional Championship on the balance beam ... competed balance beam in all 12 meets, floor exercise in 10 meets and vault once ... received second team All-EAGL honors on balance beam ... honored at team banquet as Most Consistent Gymnast ... named to EAGL All-Academic team.

**Before Maryland:** Member of Excalibur Gymnastics ... competed on the national elite level for more than two years ... two-time Junior Olympic National qualifier ... placed 10th on vault at the 2005 Junior Olympic Nationals ... finished eighth on vault at the 2004 Junior Olympic Nationals ... placed sixth at the 2003 U.S. Classic and 12th at the 2002 U.S. Classic on vault ... scored a perfect "10" on vault to lead high school team to state championship in 2006 ... is the only high school gymnast to have scored a "10" in three consecutive meets.

**Personal:** Daughter of Tony and Mindy Tossone ... has two sisters, Whitney (22) and Spencer (12) ... Whitney played field hockey for Old Dominion ... plans to be a sports psychologist... hobbies include watching movies, shopping and spending time with her family and friends ... a psychology and criminology major.

## 2008 HIGHS & CAREER HIGHS

**Vault:** 9.800 (vs. PSU, Nebraska & Rutgers, 3/21/08) / Same

**Balance Beam:** 9.900 (vs. NHU, 2/24/08) / Same

**Floor Exercise:** 9.775 (EAGL Championships, 3/29/08) / Same

## TERP TALK WITH TALIA

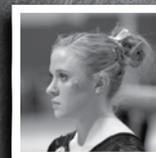
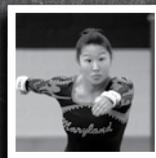
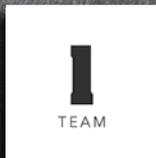
**Biggest athletic thrill:** Signing my letter of intent at Maryland and scoring 9.9 on the beam

**Favorite school to compete against:** North Carolina

**Post-graduation plans:** Go to graduate school for sports psychology

**Three words that describe me is:** Entertaining, loud and random





# ABBEY ADAMS

5-3 • SO. • ALL-AROUND  
SPRING, TEXAS (KLEIN)



### NELLIGAN ON ADAMS:

"Abbey has brought everything we had hoped she could bring and more. She is an elegant gymnast whose style shows her elite pedigree in her routines and incorporates her flair for the dramatic."

**2008:** Competed on balance beam in 11 meets, vault and floor exercise in 10 meets and uneven bars and all-around in seven meets ... posted a season-high score in floor exercise (9.825) in just her third collegiate meet ... tied her season-best mark on vault with a score of 9.750 at the EAGL Championships ... named to the EAGL All-Academic team.

**Before Maryland:** A two-year U.S. International Elite competitor ... trained at Cypress Gymnastics Academy in Houston, Texas ... placed first in the all-around at the prestigious WOGA Classic as a Level 10 and second in the all-around at the Pikes Peak Cup in Colorado Springs, Colo. ... spent the 2006 season rehabbing from an injury.

**Personal:** Daughter of John and Lucretia Adams...one sister, Lea (24) and one brother, Austin (23) ... lists balance beam as her favorite event ... hobbies include reading, spending time with her family and being involved with her church ... would like to use medical field to help others by doing medical missionary work overseas ... a general biology and pre-medical major.

### CAREER HIGHS

**Vault:** 9.750 (vs. PSU, Nebraska & Rutgers, 3/21/08 and EAGL Championships, 3/29/08)

**Uneven Bars:** 9.750 (vs. GWU & WVU, 3/9/08)

**Balance Beam:** 9.775 (vs. PSU, Nebraska & Rutgers, 3/21/08)

**Floor Exercise:** 9.825 (vs. Texas Woman's, Denver & USAF, 1/27/08)

**All-Around:** 38.500 (vs. GWU & WVU, 3/9/08)

### TERP TALK WITH ABBEY

**Favorite actress:** Angelina Jolie

**Where do you see yourself in 10 years?** Doing missionary work in underdeveloped countries  
**Something people don't know about me is:** I'm Japanese and my dad's name is John Quincy Adams



# KAITLIN JOSEPH

5-2 • SO. • ALL-AROUND  
GRAND RAPIDS, MICH. (FOREST HILLS)



### NELLIGAN ON JOSEPH:

"Last season she was the quiet one of our freshmen who made her mark as the sleeper. Now she is developing into a steady collegiate performer who can help provide depth in all four events."

**2008:** Competed in floor exercise in six meets, uneven bars in five meets, balance beam in four and vault in three ... posted season-best scores of 9.750 on floor (Governor's Cup, 2/1/08) and 9.725 on balance beam (vs GWU & WVU, 3/9/08) ... named to EAGL All-Academic team.

**Before Maryland:** A four-time Junior Olympic National qualifier ... trained at USAirborne in Grand Rapids, Mich. ... placed eighth on the uneven bars and 20th in the all-around at the 2006 Junior Olympic National Championships ... finished fifth on the uneven bars and ninth in the all-around at the 2005 J.O. Nationals ... competed in El Salvador as part of the Region V All-Star team in 2007.

**Personal:** Daughter of Thomas and Katherine Joseph ... has three sisters, Amy (20), Rebecca (16) and Emily (11) ... was a member of the National Honor Society and graduated high school summa cum laude ... enjoys being with family and friends, traveling, shopping and being involved with her church ... a civil and environmental engineering major.

### CAREER HIGHS

**Vault:** 9.575 (vs. UNC, UNH & W&M, 3/1/08)

**Uneven Bars:** 9.700 (vs. GWU & WVU, 3/9/08)

**Balance Beam:** 9.725 (vs. GWU & WVU, 3/9/08)

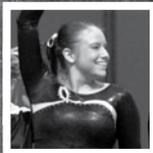
**Floor Exercise:** 9.750 (Governor's Cup, 2/1/08)

### TERP TALK WITH KAITLIN

**Favorite spot on campus:** Comcast Center

**Best part about being a Terrapin Student-Athlete:** The great team atmosphere ... plus all of the cool gear!

**Why did you choose Maryland?** The excellent academics and welcoming team



# KELSEY McDERMID

5-3 • SO. • ALL-AROUND  
WOODBINE, MD. (GLENELG)



## NELLIGAN ON McDERMID:

"One of the most popular gymnasts from Hill's Gymnastics Training Center in Gaithersburg, Md. Kelsey's strongest events are bars and beam. She has battled nagging injuries, but has shown signs of being ready to be a solid contributor for the 2009 season."

**2008:** Competed on balance beam in six meets ... notched a season-high score of 9.650 (vs. UNC, UNH & W&M, 3/1/08) ... named to EAGL All-Academic team.

**Before Maryland:** A member of Hill's Gymnastics Club in Gaithersburg, Md. ... coached by Olympic coach Kelli Hill, Jen Bundy, Kirk Morris and Cynthia Smaha ... A Level 10 competitor since 2005 ... Level 10 National and Regional qualifier.

**Personal:** Daughter of Bill and Erin McDermid ... one sister, Molly (14) and one brother, Kelly (22) ... father played football at Wisconsin ... lists balance beam as her favorite event ... in her spare

time she likes to spend time with her family and friends, watching sports and going to the movies ... won the Maryland balance beam state championship in 2006 and uneven bars state title in 2007 ... was a member of the National Honor Society ... a business major.

## CAREER HIGH

Balance Beam: 9.650 (vs. UNC, UNH & W&M, 3/1/08)

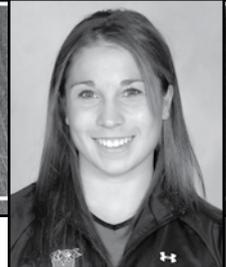
## TERP TALK WITH KELSEY

**Favorite spot on campus:** The mall

**Favorite actor:** Steve Carrell

**Favorite professional sports team:** Boston Red Sox

**Something people don't know about me is:** I've lived in five different states



# LISA REIFSCHNEIDER

5-2 • SO. • ALL-AROUND  
GRAND RAPIDS, MICH. (FOREST HILLS)

## NELLIGAN ON REIFSCHNEIDER:

"It's great to have one of the state's best gymnasts back at home. Lisa is now stronger, more focused and ready to compete! Her routines are energetic and fun to watch. Like she likes to say, 'we're going to be good this year.'"

**2008:** Competed on uneven bars in all 12 meets and floor exercise in 11 meets ... tallied season-high scores of 9.750 in both uneven bars (vs. GWU & WVU, 3/9/08) and floor exercise (two occasions) ... named to the EAGL All-Academic team.

**Before Maryland:** Transferred from the University of Denver in 2007 ... member of Frederick Gymnastics in Frederick, Md. ... three-time Junior Olympics Nationals qualifier ... won 14 Maryland state titles in her club career.

**Personal:** Daughter of Kathleen and Martin Reifschneider ... one sister, Kristina (24), one brother-in-law, Brian (24), and a young niece (Emma) ... hobbies include reading, doing jigsaw puzzles and spending time with her family ... was a member of the National Honor Society ... graduated from Urbana High School with a 4.0 GPA ... hopes to graduate and travel around the world ... would like to visit all 50 states in her lifetime ... lists competing in Germany as her most thrilling sports experience ... a kinesiology major.

## CAREER HIGHS

Uneven Bars: 9.750 (vs. GWU & WVU, 3/9/08)

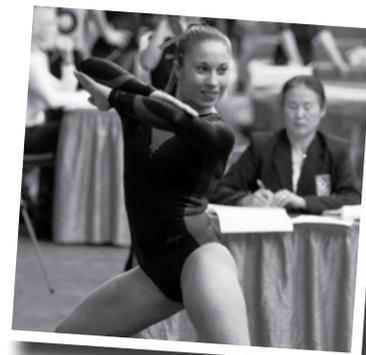
Floor Exercise: 9.750 (vs. Texas Woman's, Denver & USAF, 1/27/08 and vs. Mich, Pitt & Temple, 3/15/08).

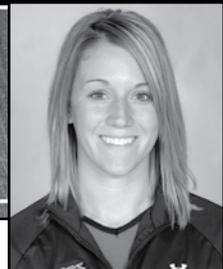
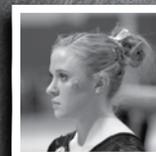
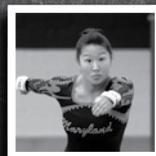
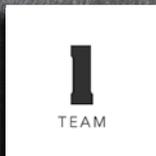
## TERP TALK WITH LISA

**Favorite spot on campus:** The mall

**Favorite band:** Taylor Swift

**Four words that describe me are:** Always smiling, determined and energetic





# ALYSSA VALBERT

5-1 • SO. • ALL-AROUND  
OSWEGO, ILL. (NEUQUA VALLEY)



### NELLIGAN ON VALBERT:

"Alyssa provides much of the personality of this team. You cannot help but watch her and before you know it you're in awe of the power and assertive way she performs her skills. I'm sure she will become a fan favorite down the road."

**2008:** Competed on vault during two meets. Posted a season-high vault score of 8.975 (vs. Texas Woman's, Denver & USAF, 1/27/08).

**Before Maryland:** A two-time Junior Olympic National qualifier ... trained at Arena Gymnastics in Joliet, Ill., under coach Dan Miller ... a tough competitor, almost forced to scratch from the 2006 Junior Olympic Nationals due to illness, but placed 54th in the all-around and helped the Region V team secure a third-place finish ... placed fifth in the all-around at the 2006 Region V Level 10 Regional Championships ... two-time state champion in Illinois.

**Personal:** Daughter of Jay and Rebecca Valbert ... has one sister Lindsey (24) ... lists her favorite event as the floor exercise ... in her spare time she likes to hang out with her family and friends ... an elementary education major.

### CAREER HIGH

Vault: 8.975 (vs. Texas Woman's, Denver & USAF, 1/27/08)

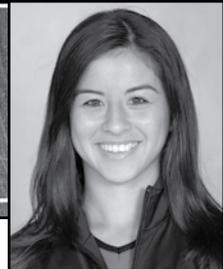
## TERP TALK WITH ALYSSA

**Favorite spot on campus:** The chapel

**Favorite food:** Crab

**Why did you choose Maryland?** Beautiful campus, awesome team and great coaches

**Favorite professional sports teams:** Chicago Bears and Chicago Cubs



# BECCA PANG

5-1 • FR. • ALL-AROUND  
HONOLULU, HAWAII (PUNAHOU)



### NELLIGAN ON PANG:

"Becca has been developing as a gymnast here after initially competing in Japan. As her strength and confidence have grown, everyone can see her potential on bars and beam."

**Before Maryland:** A three-time competitor in the Junior Olympic Nationals ... claimed state championship in Hawaii in uneven bars, balance beam and all-around in 2008 ... finished eighth on beam and 18th in all-around at nationals last year ... made the Region 2 all-star team and competed in Japan ... coached by Jamey Gossett and Joe Rapp.

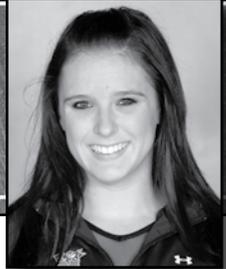
**Personal:** Daughter of Presley Pang and Susan Horowitz ... has two brothers, Bennett (20), and Jeremy (6) ... brother Bennett plays soccer at Lawrence ... father wrestled at Princeton ... graduated from high school with honors and was on the Dean's List every semester ... has volunteered with Head Start preschools ... was born and raised in Hawaii ... enrolled in letters and sciences.

## TERP TALK WITH BECCA

**Most enjoyable aspect of athletics:** Setting and achieving goals

**Reason for choosing Maryland:** The balance of quality academic and athletic programs

**Special talent:** Filmmaking



# KYRA PHILLIPS

5-6 • FR. • ALL-AROUND  
MURRIETA, CALIF. (LINFIELD CHRISTIAN)



## NELLIGAN ON PHILLIPS:

"She is into pink and is always moving and dancing. We love having her energy in the gym! She's ready to go!"

**Before Maryland:** Qualified for the Junior Olympic Nationals in 2006 and 2008 ... won the California state title on vault, uneven bars, floor exercise and all-around ... two-time regional champion on uneven bars ... placed 6th on vault at Junior Olympic Nationals in 2008 ... coached by Trent and Jill Spaulding.

**Personal:** Daughter of Robert and Kelley Phillips ... has three sisters, Jenna (15), Tessa (15) and Krista (13) ... member of the honor roll in high school ... enjoys shopping, dancing and singing in the shower ... has volunteered at an obesity camp for children ... refers to her teammates and coaches as her 'second family' ... plans to major in family science.

## TERP TALK WITH KYRA

**Nicknames:** 'Ky' or 'Thunder'

**Reasons for choosing Maryland:** The energy and being part of a team

**If you were not a gymnast you would be:** A dancer

