

By Pete Dombrosky

It was her dream since she was 10 years old. **Natasha Hastings** would picture it in her head. She would be standing there in front of a cheering crowd with a gold medal hanging around her neck. It wasn't just any gold medal, it was Olympic gold.



PHOTO BY ERROL ANDERSON

NATASHA HASTINGS

PHOTOGRAPHY BY TYRENN REDD

An
Natas
for th
round
her c
been
Bu
natur
only r
"Star
meda
iting
bly. Th
Brook
more
sense
the na
you're
Alth
she's e
college

grader,
division
Nationa
Tash
high sc
That is
ously h
for the
of 37.7
world ju
With
around
and US
Univers
ing staff
grade th
ply conf
It wa
diva." S
year an
events i
chose to