



Calendar girl Dawes, suing.

Dominique Dawes Flexes Her Legal Muscle

Olympic gymnast Dominique Dawes, the pride of Silver Spring, picks up pennies from the pavement for fun.

But the 19-year-old medalist has also picked up some very lucrative endorsement deals—Kodak, AT&T, Champion sports gear, among others. So when a New Jersey publisher and a photographer used pictures of Dawes without permission or payment in a 1996 women's gymnastics calendar, she sued for \$300,000.

"This is not a case about dollars. Her goal is not to recover money to put in

her pocket. It's a case about principle. She has a right to her images. Other people don't have a right to make a profit on her," said her attorney, Steven Van Grack.

The suit was filed in U.S. District Court in Greenbelt against the Bradford Book Company Inc. of East Hanover, N.J., owner Barry Quiner, and photographer Steve Lange.

In a letter to Dawes's agent, Quiner cited his right to publish her photo without consent based on "the newsworthy nature of the calendar's

subject matter, the right of the public to know and the freedom of the press to tell it." Dawes graces the cover and the November page.

Quiner, who hasn't answered the suit, is at the Olympics and could not be reached. However his brother Paul, who is a lawyer but isn't representing Barry, told The Source that "my advice to him is that he certainly wishes Dominique every success in the Olympics and certainly wouldn't want to comment on the lawsuit, mainly because he wants her to do good for the country."