

SCRIPT

Tennis champion shares journey from breast cancer diagnosis to Olympic medalist

VIDEO	AUDIO
Anchor lead-in	<p>For most athletes, the road to the Olympics is paved with years of training and sacrifice. As professional tennis player Gaby Dabrowski was preparing for her 2024 season and a chance to play in the Summer Olympics, her journey took an unexpected detour. A diagnosis of breast cancer threatened her dream and her life.</p> <p>What followed was a carefully coordinated plan at Mayo Clinic, designed not only to treat her cancer but also to preserve her ability to compete on the world stage.</p>
B-Roll: Young Gaby playing tennis in home movies GABY DABROWSKI Patient	<p>Gaby Dabrowski 00:00 "I started playing tennis when I was 7 years old. Growing up, the Olympics were always on TV for the two weeks in the summer, so it was always my dream to compete at the Olympics."</p>
B-Roll: Gaby training on the tennis court B-Roll: Gaby with Dr. Jennifer Maynard	<p>Heading into the 2024 season, Gaby Dabrowski was ready to realize her childhood dream.</p> <p>But when she found a lump on her breast, Gaby's focus went immediately to her health.</p> <p>Dr. Jennifer Maynard, a Mayo Clinic family medicine physician specializing in sports medicine, helped coordinate Gaby's care.</p>
JENNIFER MAYNARD, M.D. FAMILY MEDICINE Mayo Clinic	<p>Dr. Jennifer Maynard 00:49 "We recommended a pretty urgent evaluation, as she was over 30, we wanted to get the mammogram and the ultrasound."</p>
B-Roll: Screens	<p>Those results were abnormal.</p> <p>A breast MRI followed, then a biopsy confirmed the lump was cancer.</p>
Gaby on camera	<p>Gaby Dabrowski 00:00 "When I was diagnosed, I didn't know if I would be able to play tennis again."</p>

Dr. Jennifer Maynard on camera	Dr. Jennifer Maynard 01:43 "She knew her ultimate goal was to be an Olympian, and so we were able to really be innovative, think out of the box."
B-Roll: Gaby's care team collaborating B-Roll: Gaby serving a tennis ball B-Roll: Surgical setting B-Roll: Gaby ringing the bell	Gaby's care team had to consider how to treat her cancer in a way that avoided the muscles used in playing tennis. In the spring of 2024, she underwent surgery, then targeted radiation. Treatment was successful, and Gaby was cancer-free.
Gaby on camera	Gaby Dabrowski 01:24 "I felt like even though I wasn't playing on court and playing the game that I love, it was kind of like swapping in the care team as my partners."
B-Roll: Gaby on the tennis court B-Roll: Gaby at Opening Ceremonies B-Roll: Gaby on podium holding medal	As soon as her care team cleared her, Gaby resumed training. Her dedication paid off in Paris. Gaby and her doubles partner earned an Olympic bronze medal.
B-Roll: Gaby with her doubles partner Gaby on camera B-Roll: Gaby as a child with her parents	Gaby Dabrowski 02:17 "When I was on the podium holding the medal, I really just felt full elation. I didn't feel like it was just a win for me. I felt like it was a win for everyone: my best friends, my parents, my coaching team, my care team."
B-Roll: Gaby with Dr. Maynard B-Roll: Gaby holding a tennis racket	Gaby has continued to find success in tournaments and off the court as an advocate for personal health.
Gaby on camera	Gaby Dabrowski 02:56 "I certainly have a newfound appreciation for playing a sport as my job, but at the same time, if you took it away from me right now, I'd be OK because I have my health. And that's the most important thing."
	For the Mayo Clinic News Network, I'm Alex Osiadacz (Oh-side-us).