



WISCONSIN INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

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TEAMS, INDIVIDUALS COMPETE FOR GYMNASTICS STATE TITLES

**Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association
Gymnastics Championships
Friday-Saturday, March 5-6, 2010
Wisconsin Rapids Lincoln High School Fieldhouse
Wisconsin Rapids, Wis.**

THE CHAMPIONSHIPS: The 40th Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association Gymnastics State Championships will take place Friday and Saturday, March 5-6, at Wisconsin Rapids Lincoln High School in Wisconsin Rapids, Wis. The individual championships will begin Friday at 5:40 p.m. The team competition will begin at noon Saturday. Ticket prices for the championships are \$6 per session and are available at the door.

ON THE AIR: The gymnastics State Championships highlight program will be aired on FS Wisconsin Sunday, April 18 at 4 p.m. For dates and times of all WIAA programming on FSN Wisconsin, please check local listings or visit the WIAA Web Site Media Center for the most current schedule.

CHAMPIONSHIPS FORMAT: Ten teams will compete for the Division 1 and Division 2 team titles. The top two teams from each of the five sectionals in each division qualify for the meet. The top five individuals in each event and the top five all-arounds at each sectional qualify for the State Individual Championships.

COMPETING TEAMS: There are 10 teams that compete for the team State championship in both divisions. The teams qualifying in Division 1, with the number of times the programs have qualified for the team competition in parentheses, are Arrowhead (5), Burlington/Badger/Catholic Central/Wilmot Union (2), Eau Claire Memorial/North (7), Franklin/Muskego/Oak Creek/Whitnall (3), Homestead (18), Middleton (15),

Oshkosh West/North (1), Sheboygan South/North (7), Stevens Point (16), Waunakee/DeForest (1). The 10 teams competing in Division 2 are Antigo (7), Ashland (10), Elkhorn (3), Mount Horeb (24), Onalaska (7), Platteville/Belmont/Lancaster (1), River Falls (20), Viroqua/Cashton/De Soto/North Crawford (2), West Salem/Aquinas (4) and Whitefish Bay (15). There were 82 teams in the Tournament Series this year, including 43 in Division 1 and 39 in Division 2.

TEAM TOURNAMENT HISTORY: The WIAA has sponsored the State Gymnastics Championships since 1971. The event featured one division from 1971 through 1977. The State tournament series competition was divided into two divisions in 1978. Waukesha West/North/South has won the most team championships with seven. Brookfield Central and De Pere are tied for the second most with five. Mount Horeb, Nicolet, River Falls and Southwestern/Cuba City have won four titles.

LAST YEAR: Arrowhead won its first team championship by capturing the Division 1 title with a score of 142.0333. Franklin/Muskego/Oak Creek/Whitnall placed runner-up with a score of 141.4. Individually, Jessica Geraci of West Allis Hale/Central won three of the four events, as well as the all-around competition. She compiled a 37.62 score to win the all-around. Geraci won the vault with a score of 9.6, the balance beam with a score of 9.47, and the floor exercise with a 9.50. Olevia Boykin of Sheboygan South/North claimed the gold in the uneven parallel bars with a score of 9.13. In Division 2, Whitefish Bay won its third team title as a stand-alone program with a score of 141.7667. The Blue Dukes also have two championships in a co-op program arrangement with Shorewood. River Falls finished runner-up with a score of 141.65. Individually, Rachel Paulus of River Falls won the all-around with a score of 36.70. Emily Yachinich of Ashland claimed the vaulting title with a score of 9.4;

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Carleigh Felstead of Milton won the uneven parallel bars with a 9.4; Amanda Guise of River Falls reigned as champion in the balance beam with a 9.367; and Miranda Ojala of Antigo won the floor exercise with a 9.52.

RETURNING CHAMPIONS: Senior Olevia Boykin of Sheboygan South/North is the only returning champion back to defend a title in Division 1. She attempts to repeat her effort in the uneven parallel bars. Division 2 has a pair of gymnasts with sights on back-to-back titles. Sophomore Emily Yachinich of Ashland hopes to add to the title she won in the vault a year ago, and senior

Miranda Ojala of Antigo tries for a repeat of last year's fortunes in the floor exercise.

NEED THE QUALIFIERS?: All rosters of qualifying teams are available on the WIAA Web site at: <http://www.wiaawi.org/index.php?id=185>

NEED RESULTS?: The quickest way to attain results will be to access the gymnastics or results page of the WIAA Web site at: <http://www.wiaawi.org/index.php?id=437> and choose the appropriate link.