

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

“Darke County Gymnasts Fare Well at District Championships”

The weekend of March 15th saw many rewards for the YMCA of Darke County gymnasts. The Level 4 & 5 teams traveled to Piqua on Saturday to compete against 12 additional teams from the Southwest Ohio area in the District Championship Meet. The Level 4 team emerged with a 4th place standing while the Level 5 girls took 7th place.

Level 4 gymnast, Jenna Frantz, placed 2nd on vault, uneven bars and in the All Around competition with a score of 34.700. Tessa Schatz earned 1st on floor exercise, 2nd on vault, 3rd on uneven bars and 4th place on balance beam, giving her a 2nd place All Around finish with a score of 34.850. Kayley Ruschau placed 3rd on floor exercise and 5th on vault, uneven bars and balance beam giving her the 3rd place All Around title with a score of 34.675. Leighana Rautsaw enjoyed 1st on vault, 3rd on floor exercise and 5th on uneven bars. Her All Around score of 32.300 earned her the 3rd place finish. Kari Kueterman placed 2nd on uneven bars and 4th All Around with a 33.650. Taylor Ward took a 4th place finish on vault and 5th place on uneven bars and in the All Around category with a final score of 33.250. Madison Myers placed 1st on uneven bars, 2nd on vault and 5th on floor exercise while Bryanna Diceanu took 2nd on floor exercise and 3rd on vault. Ashley Jolley earned the 4th place recognition on uneven bars and 5th place on vault while Yvonne Barga took home a 5th place vault award.

Level 5 team member Madison Schaar swept many events earning 1st place on vault, uneven bars and floor exercise, as well as 3rd on balance beam. Her combined score of 33.400 gave her the 1st place All Around finish. Teammate Meg Rehmert took 2nd place on vault and balance beam and 3rd place on uneven bars and floor exercise. This led to her 2nd place All Around finish with a score of 31.225

The YMCA of Darke County was the site of the level 6-9 District Championship Meet Sunday, March 16th. The Level 8 team comprised of Samantha Shook, Paige Keller, Leah Allread and Allyson Manning lived up to their reputation as top notch gymnasts and took the 1st place team finish including placing 1st in the 14 & under team category.

Shook came out on top taking 1st in all events including the All Around competition with a score of 35.475. Keller tied with Shook for 1st place on uneven bars and earned 2nd place in the remaining events including the All Around category with a 34.825. Allread earned 3rd place on uneven bars, balance beam and floor exercise and 4th on vault giving her the 3rd place All Around recognition. Manning placed 2nd on uneven bars, 3rd on vault and 4th on balance beam, floor exercise and in the All Around competition.

Level 7 gymnast, Andrea Keller, had an outstanding meet, placing 1st on vault, uneven bars and balance beam and 2nd on floor exercise. Her All Around score of 34.675 gave her the 1st place finish.

Harmony Kolling, Level 6 gymnast, placed 2nd on uneven bars and floor exercise, 3rd on balance beam and 4th on vault. Her All Around score of 33.550 gave her the 3rd place finish. Sydney Bowser placed 2nd on uneven bars and 5th on vault and floor exercise leading to her 3rd place All Around finish.

Additional awards were also earned in individual age categories. The 8 and under Level 4 girls comprised of Amber Aultman, Bryanna Diceanu, Jenna Frantz, Ashley Jolley, Leighana Rautsaw, and Kayley Ruschau took 2nd place. The 9&10 year old Level 4 girls including Yvonne Barga, Brooke Condon, Kari Kueterman, Tessa Schatz and Taylor Ward placed 4th. Level 5 teammates Meg Rehmert and Madison Schaar placed 1st in the 8 and under category.

Coaches Katy Smith, Brittani Groff and Jessica Pothast stated they are proud of the hard work and dedication shown by the team this past competitive season. Expectations for the 2008-2009 season are high and they have no doubt the girls will rise to the occasion.

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PICTURE CAPTION: YMCA of Darke County 2007-2008 Competitive Gymnastics Team