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A Message From the President

To all judges from Level Five to Brevet and to the Assigners of those judges:

I am a judge! This means I love youngsters, competition, and constant studying. It think it is worth it to challenge my mind to be the best-educated, one-person, traveling, "judging machine" possible. Boy, if desire was all that was required, I could be the best official in the world! But...I found it takes more than desire to reach that goal! I discovered that I have to keep track of many, many details and many, many rules, but that's life.



Yvonne Hodge

Let's take, for an example, the rules that airline pilots must follow in order to be "legal." They must gain hours of experience and practice and must obtain a license. The license expires after a period of time and pilots must renew their licenses.

Like the airline pilot, I must get hours of experience and practice to become proficient as a judge or as an assigner of judges. Like the pilot, I must have not one, but two, "licenses" to operate. I must have an NAWGJ "license" and a USGF "license" and they both must be current for me to be a legitimate "judging machine."

It is necessary for me to have a contract for each meet or group of meets and I must have a rating (or be testing for that rating) for the level I am going to officiate. I cannot judge an event alone unless it is a Level Five meet and I cannot be a Chief Judge if I am affiliated (except with approval of the R.T.C. for special circumstances).

If I am an assigner of judges, I must know all of the above PLUS know each judge's active status situation, schedule of meets, hours to be contacted, and individual strengths and weaknesses. I must be aware that the NCAA requires Level 9 judges or above for dual meets and Level 10, Elite, and Brevet judges for regional and national meets.

Yes, I am a judge and yes, I am an assigner, so this makes you and me sisters and brothers in this very responsible business of working with young people and with each other. To you all, I warmly wish you a super 1991, personally and gymnastically!

Yvonne Hodge President, NAWGJ

Blocking:

A New Approach to Practice Judging

Coaches routinely teach gymnasts to "block" as they approach the vaulting horse. Now the term "block" has a new meaning for judges. Muriel Grossfeld, Brevet judge and former Olympic gymnast and coach, suggests using a blocking technique as a method to practice-judge vault. Muriel is referring to blocking from view all but one segment of the vault. The technique helps judges increase their focus on one phase of the vault without reference to the action that occurred prior to or after that phase.

Here's how the technique works. Arrange gym mats by the side of the horse perpendicular to the floor. Place the mats so that the gymnast will be visible only when she is performing the phase of the vault you wish to practice. For example, if you want to practice observing the support segment of the vault, place one mat in front of the horse to block the pre-flight from view and place another mat behind the horse to block the after-flight from view. Leave a space of approximately 1 1/2 feet between the mats so that only the middle section of the vault is visible. As gymnasts perform their vaults, focus on the support phase to observe the gymnast's body alignment and repulsion.

If it's too cumbersome to arrange the mats, you can obtain a similar effect by holding paper in front of your face. The paper should be arranged so you can see only the

segment of the vault you are studying.

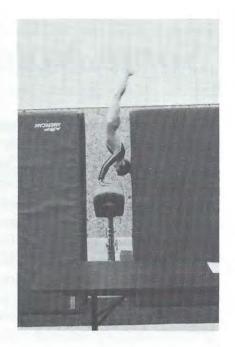
Is the blocking technique helpful? Yes, says Hilary Carlson, the Illinois State Judging Director. According to Hilary, "floor, beam and bars allow judges to observe selected elements of a routine because each element can be repeated in isolation. Vaulting, however, occurs in one quick motion. It isn't possible to ask a gymnast to perform only the after-flight segment of the vault." Thyra Magnan, Level Ten judge, agrees that the blocking technique has helped her to view one phase of the vault without being influenced by the other phases. "It's a great way to increase your focus," says Sue McNamara, Level Ten judge. They all agree the technique is a real eye-opener!



Donna Pinter, Level 6/7 judge from St. Louis, used two pieces of paper to isolate the support phase of the vault.



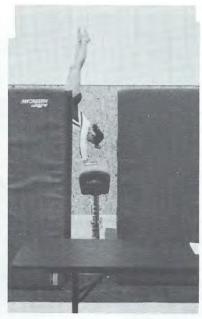


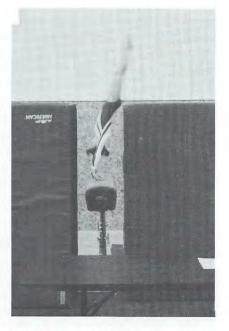


Compare the
support phase
of these two vaults

Deductions for Support Phase:	
Handspring Vault	
Using force to establish support	> .50
Incorrect alignment: arched, piked,	
shoulders forward of hands (each)	> .20
Arms bent up to 90 degrees	>1.00
Lack of repulsion	>1.00
Alternate repulsion of hands	> .30







NAWGJ would like to thank the Level 6 gymnasts from Midstate Academy of Gymnastics in Springfield, Illinois and from McDonough County YMCA in Macomb, Illinois for helping capture the support phase of their vaults.

Some Notes From Muriel...

Muriel thinks the "blocking" technique helps judges understand how important it is to evaluate all segments of the vault in order to arrive at a fair ranking of the competitors. She wants to stress the importance of evaluating the "on-the-horse"--arrival and leaving/repulsion phase when judging the entire vault. She feels we often don't see and/or "judge" this phase well enough or we don't use the tools the deductions give us for this phase of the vault.

on the post-flight will help judges better see rise, height, and direction. In a vault like the Yamashita, the "blocking" technique can be enlightening when evaluating the various actions that happen in the conversion of straight to pike--the sit-up into the pike versus the other variations that commonly take place (like seat/hip drop).

When the blocking technique is used to look at only the "pre" segment of the vault, judges can sharpen their awareness of its existence in terms of evaluation and use of deductions.

When looking at only the post-segment of the vault, judges can concentrate on the timing of the positions and/or the actions of the vault...when did the gymnast pike or twist or open. Focusing solely

Muriel Grossfeld is currently working with the United States Gymnastics Federation as a National Training staff member. Muriel travels from gym to gym at the request of National Team Coaches. She uses her expertise at choreography to evaluate the routines of national team gymnasts.







Several elite gymnasts participated as demonstrators for the "blocking" technique of practice judging. The demonstration took place at the USGF Training Center in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Gender Stereotyping in Televised Sports

The Amateur Athletic Foundation of Los Angeles (AAFLA) recently sponsored a research study on television coverage of women's sports. The way in which television covers, or fails to cover, women in athletics affects the way in which female athletes are perceived and the way in which they perceive themselves. The researchers studied six weeks of local sports coverage on a Los Angeles television station during summer, 1989. Out of approximately 264 minutes of total sports coverage in the six-week period, 244 minutes (92%) covered men's sports, 12 minutes (5%) covered women's sports, and 8 minutes (3%) covered gender-neutral topics. The results were not surprising because there were more men's sports (primarily baseball) to cover during the six-week period studied. However, during this same time period, numerous sports events involving women took place including the Gymnastics Championships of the USA and the U.S. Olympic Festival!

Comic Relief

One disturbing finding of the study was that women's sports are often used as comic relief in sports telecasts. For instance, the single longest story (3 minutes and 50 seconds) on a woman in the six-week period focused not on a female athlete but on "Morgana, the Kissing Bandit," a woman who has made a name for herself by running out onto baseball fields and kissing players.

Women as Spectators

Women tended to be shown more in the role of spectator than as athlete. On July 10, viewers saw female spectators in bilkinis dancing in the baseball stands with the comment from the sportscaster: "Why we love this game..." On July 14, a broadcast which had no coverage of women's sports, there were several shots of female spectators, including one of a particularly bosomy woman wearing a tank-top at a baseball game. The commentator remarked, "Isn't baseball a great sport? Just brings out the best in everyone! Okay, I know we'll get complaints, but it's not like we snuck into her back yard and took her picture!"

Attributions of Strength and Weakness

There were consistent contrasts found in the verbal descriptors commentators used in discussing women and men athletes. Examples of attributions of strength were: powerful, confident, smart, big and strong, and aggressive. Examples of attributions of weakness were: weary, frustrated, jittery, panicked, indecisive, vulnerable. Commentators in men's tennis used nearly four times the number of attributions of

strength as weakness. In women's tennis, on the other hand, attributions of strength and weakness were roughly equal in number. In men's basketball, attributions of strength outnumbered attributions of weakness by a nearly six-to-one ratio. In contrast, attributions of strength in women's basketball outnumbered attributions of weakness by only a two-to-one ratio.

Attributions of Success and Failure

Commentators also differed between men and women in their descriptions of success and failure. Men's success was attributed to experience, physical condition, strength, hustle, knowledge of the game, quickness, skill level, intelligence, good judgment, guts, speed, courage, good leadership, good coaching, and showing no emotion. Some of these same attributions were used to describe women's success but, more frequently, women's success was attributed to getting along with each other, helping each other out, close chemistry, skill and luck, patience, big hearts, emotional preparation, and victory because they are a family.

Cute Girls and Strong Men

Women athletes frequently were referred to as "girls" and "young ladies." Men athletes, never referred to as "boys," usually were called "men," "young men," and "young fellas."

The Good News!

While this study found that televised sports news was clearly biased against women, there was very little of the overtly sexist language, sexualization and/or devaluation of women athletes that existed in the recent past. In fact, there appears to be conscious efforts by some commentators to move toward non-sexist reporting of women's sports. The AAFLA study includes several recommendations for improving coverage of women's sports. A copy of the study may be obtained by writing to the AAFLA, 2141 West Adams Boulevard, Los Angeles, California 90018.

This article presents a summary of the findings of the study conducted by Margaret Carlisle Duncan, Ph.D., University of Wisconsin and Michael A. Messner, Ph.D., Linda Williams, Ph.D., and Kerry Jensen, Research Assistant from the University of Southern California.

"Thereby" Leaps Clarified

Leap backward with 1/2 turn (180 degrees), thereby cross splitting the bent legs (180 degrees) and arching the upper body -- landing optional (Thümmler, FIG Code, 1989, 1.64, p.173).

Leap with 1/1 turn (360 degrees), thereby bending forward and thrusting backward free leg --180 degree separation (FIG Code, 1989, 1.66, p. 173).

If you look in the Code of Points, you'll find these descriptions of two beautiful dance moves. The first is named after a famous East German gymnast, Doerte Thümmler. The second description is now attributed to a gymnast from the Soviet Unior, Elena Shevchenko. The descriptions are perfectly obvious if you've seen the elements performed. If not, you may be wondering exactly what "thereby cross splitting" and "thereby bending" means.

The confusion regarding these two dance elements first became apparent when the new Code of Points was introduced at a national clinic in Chicago. Anxious to find a way to gain an extra bonus point for their gymnasts, a few coaches took to the aisles of the meeting room and attempted to perform the elements based on the descriptions provided in the Code. This scene made for a few good laughs and a couple of coaches with strained backs, but it didn't provide much clarification about the elements.

That same summer, judges across the country began to study for the first certification exams to be given at the NAWGJ Symposium in California. Several judges arrived for the exam with the same question: What are those three "thereby" moves*

on floor? Unable to obtain clarification, these judges headed into the test with a new mnemonic device: if it says "thereby," it's a C+1 unless it says "with successive separation of both legs to cross split" and then it's a "B". This handy piece of information was helpful for studying for the test but it doesn't help during competition unless the gymnast yells out "thereby" while she's performing the element.

Many judges assumed they'd probably never see the "thereby" moves so they weren't too concerned. Until, of course, they received their first inquiry form asking "Did you give credit for the Thümmler?" The what? You know, one of the "thereby moves" It seems even the coaches had picked up on the mnemonic device. Thus, the small debate began. Did the gymnast cross split the bent legs? Did she arch the upper body? Did she perform the Thümmler?

The mystery was recently solved by Linda-Kardos Barnett, elite judge and former elite gymnast. Linda conducted two sessions entitled "Dance Clarity" at the 1990 Region V Symposium. The Thümmler was one of several dance elements discussed in her session as was element 1.66, Shevchenko. Word soon spread that Linda had a video of the "thereby" elements and her second session had standing room only.

Linda graciously allowed the NAWGJ newsletter editor to photograph the video (Grace and Maloney) USGFProduction Video, KeyFloor Exercise Dance Elements by Originators/Olympic Athletes). The still pictures taken from video are fuzzy but hopefully they'll help you recognize one of the "thereby's" when you see it.

*The other thereby is element 1.38 in Floor Exercise.



The Gymnast

Elena Shevchenko was the gold medalist at the 1st European Cup. Among other awards, this Soviet gymnast placed fifth in the 1988 USA/USSR Challenge and first in the 1989 Hungarian International Championships. She also toured with the USA and Soviet Union teams on the Olympic Victory Tour.

The Women's Technical Committee simplified the evaluation of the "thereby" moves by establishing a general rule for any leap or jump that has a 360 degree turn in flight and a 180 degree split of the legs in flight. All such moves are awarded C+1 (WTC Minutes, July 29-30, 1990).

Officials Under Fire Part One: Tough Calls Provide Lessons

1990 has been a particularly painful year for officials—not gymnastics officials, but officials in general. Football, basketball, hockey, and baseball officials have been involved in a series of controversial calls that have decided, erroneously in some cases, the winners of games and possibly the winners of championships. Can gymnastics judges learn anything from the unfortunate experiences of officials in other sports? This series of articles is designed to present information on officiating from other sports. We think our readers will find a great deal of similarity, a few areas of difference, and more than a few lessons to be learned. The Editor.

The Controversy

Most gymnastics judges don't have the luxury of closely following major sports events because they're usually gone on weekends judging meets, attending clinics, or helping gymnasts perfect their routines. For the sake of those who can't keep up with other sports, here's a summary of the major controversies that have made the headlines in 1990.

College football has grabbed most of the attention for questionable calls in 1990. "Rarely has college football officiating experienced such a barrage of criticism...the public perception is that the officiating has been awful, a succession of inept decisions made by guys who wouldn't know how to call home, much less call pass interference" (Looney, p. 46).

It all started on October 6, 1990. The outcomes of two major football games were affected by crucial errors made by officials. In the Colorado-Missouri game, Big Eight officials inadvertently allowed Colorado a fifth down with two seconds remaining in the game. The fifth-down resulted in a play that

gave Colorado the win against Missouri. On the same day, Big Ten officials missed a forward lateral by the University of Illinois after Illinois had blocked a field goal attempt by Ohio State in the fourth quarter. Illinois, who was leading at the time by only four points, went on to score on the play and win the game. If that wasn't enough disaster, the same officiating crew was involved in another controversy the very next week. These officials failed to call pass interference against Michigan State as they attempted a two-point conversion by the University of Michigan with six seconds left. Michigan State won by one point (Dodd, 1990).

College officials weren't the only ones in trouble last fall. Professional football officials also made the headlines. Two calls that appeared clear on replay were not reversed: a fumble by Minnesota's Herschel Walker and Calvin Williams' touchdown catch for Philadelphia with only one foot in bounds (Dodd, 1990). That same night, the referees didn't call a hit at the knees of the quarterback by Andre Waters who was subsequently fined \$10,000 when the hit was reviewed on replay.

Hockey fans also had their share of controversy with officials. The defending Stanley Cup champion Calgary was eliminated from the National Hockey League playoffs after the referee erroneously ruled that a goal by Calgary in overtime would not count (Dodd, 1990). Two hockey games in October were lost by inaccurate calls by officials. In the first, Chicago's tying goal in the final four seconds was disallowed because the officials thought time had run out. Replays showed the goal was made with two to three seconds remaining. Five days later, a goal was disallowed for a St. Louis player when the puck bounced out of the net. Once again, the replay found the referee's ruling to be in error, costing St. Louis the game.

What about baseball? Ejection calls seem to have created the most controversy this year for officials. Ejection of a Boston Red Sox pitcher is claimed to have had a major effect on the outcome of the American League Championship series. Ejection of a Philadelphia Phillies runner in August resulted in a dispute between the umpires union and the National League President (Dodd, 1990). Both calls were criticized by some as too severe in games with such significance.

Basketball also got involved in the headlines. In the first game of the 1990 season, the referee called a New Jersey Net player with goaltending against

"Errors by officials are not accepted as generously as errors by players or coaches."

Philadelphia in a three-point shot that tied the game. The replay showed that the shot fell short and wide and the goaltending call was in error. But, the goaltending ruling tied the game and Philadelphia won the game in overtime (Dodd, 1990).

What's the Problem?

For officials whose goal it is to be invisible, these calls are a nightmare and bring on the inevitable search for a problem. Dave Perry, the Big Ten supervisor of officials thinks the problem is "that errors by officials are not accepted as generously as errors by players or coaches" (Looney, 1990).

Instant replay is part of the problem. Advanced technologies have allowed closer scrutiny of officiating. Their mistakes are played over and over.

The rules themselves may be part of the problem. Earl Strom, a 33 year veteran referee with the NBA thinks the rules have gotten too complex in basketball. He feels the system is taking away from the thinking process. Officials are being taught to follow the code to the letter and are learning that structure is everything. While he agrees that a

sense of order is necessary, he thinks the new complex system is "trying to protect the referees from being vulnerable to human error. You can't fear that vulnerability as an official" (Strom, 1990, p. 135).

Officiating is Better Than Ever

Unfortunately, it's the errors that grab the headlines. Over 97% of all calls by officials are accurate. According to Perry, only 10 to 15 plays out of 750 in a football game could be judged to go either way and perhaps fewer than 10 out of 750 per game are inaccurate (Looney, 1990).

A good case can be made that the quality of officiating is better than ever. Videotape allows clear and easy review of competitions by officials so that they can learn from their mistakes and avoid them in the future. Training efforts have improved and expanded in virtually all sports. However, in many sports, the rules have become more complex, the competitors are better and stronger, the coaches have become more sophisticated. The result: better officials, better competitions, and more opportunities to make mistakes.

Any Lessons Here?

Thanks to all the controversy in the fall, 1990, newspapers and sports magazines increased their coverage of officiating. These articles provided insights regarding how officials in other sports handle controversy, how they train, and how they are evaluated. Highlights from the articles are summarized in the following pages. After you read these articles, one lesson will be perfectly clear: no matter if officials are watching a 250 pound football player, a seven-foot tall basketball player, or a four-foot tall gymnast, officiating takes hard work, dedication, and love of sport.

References

Dodd, Mike. (1990, November 8). Roll call of tough calls. USA Today, p. 9C.

Looney, Douglas S. (1990, October 29). Glaring mistakes. Sports Illustrated, pp. 46-53.

Strom, Earl with Johnson, Blaine (1990, November 5). How to call 'em like a pro. **Sports Illustrated**, pp. 125-135.

Officials Under Fire Part Two: Handling Controversy

On the rare occasions that officials do make mistakes, how do they respond? Most officials feel terrible. One of the officials involved in the Michigan-Michigan State controversy confided to his supervisor that he didn't sleep all night after the game (Wojnowski, 1990). Other officials such as Big Ten official Tom Hofmann, say that the mistakes "make me want to get out there even more and not let it happen again" (Looney, 1990).

Facing the mistake honestly is the first step toward correction. Jerry Markbreit, NFL referee, says that any official can look good and walk with his head high when he does something right. "The real test comes when you make a mistake. Not only do you have to own up to it, you also have to live with it" (Markbreit & Steinberg, 1988, p.50).

Markbreit's advice for handling mistakes is to maintain your composure. "no matter how embarrassed, scared, or irritated you are at yourself or anyone else, never show it" (Markbreit & Steinberg, 1988, p. 88). He believes that when the officials show they're upset, the competitors and coaches get upset because they feel the officials have lost control of the situation.

The Big Ten Supervisor of Officials, Dave Parry, also recommends facing mistakes with honesty. After one of the controversial football games last fall, Parry "talked to the officials and told them we'll have to bite the bullet and be honest" (Looney,

1990). He called the coaches and explained the errors that had been made.

Other than official responses to the parties involved, Parry says that officials should not talk about the situation and should keep a low profile. The goal of officiating is to be a positive influence but not to let anyone notice.

A second method for handling controversy is to avoid "make-up" calls. If you make a mistake, you just have to let it go or change it if you discover the error on time. One of the biggest mistakes made by new officials is to try to even things up at the next opportunity. This responses, says experienced officials, results in two mistakes instead of one.

Mistakes will happen and controversy will take place. When disputes occur, Parry says a good official "soothes rather than incites. The official needs to be a great people-handler. Kill 'em with kindness. Firm but fair" (Looney, 1990).

References

Looney, Douglas S. (1990, October 29). Glaring mistakes. *Sports Illustrated*, pp. 46-51.

Markbreit, Jerry and Steinberg, Alan. (1988). Born to referee: My life on the gridiron. New York: William Morrow & Company.

Wojnowski, Bob. (1990, October 17). Pressure mounts for Big Ten officials. *USA Today*, p. 10C.

When disputes occur...

"a good official soothes rather than incites. The official needs to be a great people-handler. Kill 'em with kindness. Firm but fair"

Dave Parry, Big Ten Supervisor of Officials

Officials Under Fire Part Three: Education and Training

The education and training of gymnastics officials is very similar to that of football officials. Take Big Ten officials for example. They are required to attend clinics and meetings, read rules and rule interpretations, and practice their skills at fall and spring scrimmages (Looney, 1990). Big Ten officials meet every Wednesday night during football season in Michigan City, Indiana. For some officials, this requires a four-hour drive, a three-hour meeting, and another four-hour drive home. The meeting is voluntary and unpaid but most officials attend weekly. At the meeting, the Supervisor of Officials reviews 40 to 50 calls, both good ones and bad ones, made in games the previous weekend.

The night before the game, the officials meet again to review more videotape. After the game, they

"If the play is designed to fool someone, make sure you're not the fool."

Jim Keogh in Sports Illustrated.

meet again to study tape from the game they just officiated to identify their own mistakes.

In contrast to gymnastics judges, Big Ten officials are paid \$400 a game plus expenses. However, one referee estimated that his game pay equates to \$2.20 an hour (Looney, 1990).

References

Looney, Douglas S. (1990, October 29). Glaring mistakes. Sports Illustrated. pp. 46-53.

Part Four: Evaluation of Officials

The Women's Technical Committee recently passed a resolution to establish some formal evaluation process of officials. The process has not yet been decided and recommendations are being requested from the gymnastics community (WTC Minutes, July 29-30, 1990). It is instructive to examine evaluation methods used in other sports. Here's what was reported in the press as a result of the fall officiating controversies.

Football, hockey, and basketball all have similar systems. Officials are graded on their performance following a review of videotapes. In some cases, observers are sent to games specifically to evaluate the performance of officials. The grades obtained by officials for each game are combined and those with the highest ratings are assigned to play-off and championship games.

A notable exception to the evaluation of officials is found in Major League Baseball. Umpires have no formal review in baseball and problems are dealt with on an as-needed basis. Umpires are rated each year by clubs and supervisors but these ratings have no bearing on job security or on assignments to play-off games. World Series assignments are made on a rotating basis.

Do You Have An Opinion?

If you would like to express your opinion on the evaluation of gymnastics officials, send a letter to the editor. Should judges be evaluated? If so, how and by whom?

Take This Job and Love It *

Why do we do this? If you've been a judge for any length of time, the chances are pretty good that you've asked yourself this question. Gymnastics judging costs money, reduces family time, consumes leisure time, and creates test anxiety, frustration, and pressure. What could possibly be worth such agony?

Most judges say that gymnastics is close to an obsession. It's exciting, exhilarating, and a welcome break from the daily routine. For many, officiating provides a sense of accomplishment for a job well done and contributes to enhanced self-esteem. Mastering the complicated and ever-changing rules produces a sense of mental and intellectual accomplishment. Gymnastics also provides a way for adults to keep in contact with young people and a way to make new friends.

The high level of dedication needed by gymnastics judges can eventually take its toll. Suddenly, what used to be challenging becomes boring. What used to be an opportunity becomes a chore. What used to build self-esteem becomes demeaning. What happened? Stress? Burn-out? Exhaustion?

Joanne Aschenbrenner, Brevet Judge, faced this problem head on. After judging the 1988 Olympics in Seoul, Korea, Joanne felt more than the typical let-down that follows a big event. She remembered the song "Take This Job and Shove It" and felt empathy with some of the lyrics. So she decided it was time to adopt a new attitude. By following some advice in some books she was reading, Joanne found that she could change the lyric to "Take This Job and Love It" (Jaffe and Scott, 1988). If you are facing burn-out, here's a few suggestions Joanne collected from books and from other "back-fromthe-edge" judges!

Take a Vacation. If you're thinking of quitting judging, take a few months or maybe even a year off instead. Reassess your desire to quit after you've had an opportunity to relax and re-evaluate your decision in a less stressful time.

Reduce Your Workload. Make a decision to limit the number of meets you'll judge each month and stick to your decision. In a recertification year, only test for certain levels. If you aren't certified to judge at all levels, you won't be asked to judge at all levels.

Adjust the Time You Give to Gymnastics. If you've been spending too much time with coaches or gymnasts, spend less. If you're spending too much time with the rules or with gymnastics paperwork, spend more time in the gym. It might help to have more contact with those who caused you to



Joanne Aschenbrenner

love the sport in the first place: the gymnasts!

Re-focus Your Contributions. If you've been devoting too much time to administrative tasks for gymnastics organizations, resign from some of your positions. Conversely, if you've never been involved in administration, become a member of a board, contribute to a newsletter, or volunteer to help at a big meet like the World Championships.

Have Some Fun! Organize some social activities with judges. Meet for lunch, go shopping, or see a movie together. Don't talk about gymnastics!

Network With Other Judges. Talk to other judges to see how they handle burn-out. Sometimes it helps just to know you're not alone in this crisis. Most experienced judges have faced burn-out. Maybe they can provide a few helpful hints.

Hopefully, these recommendations will help you overcome temporary stress and stagnation. Occasionally, however, nothing with help. Kahil Gibran said "if you can't work with love but only with distaste, it is better than you should leave your work." If you find it's time to move on to other challenges, resign from judging with dignity. However, don't burn your bridges. Who knows—you might want to come back and judge again with joy!

Work is Love made visible.

And if you can't work with love

but only with distaste,

It is better that you should leave your work

and sit at the gate of the temple and

take alms of the people who work with joy.

Kahlil Gibran, The Prophet

NAWGJ Symposium Bid Enclosed

1993 Symposium Director, René Niccollai, is accepting bids for the '93 NAWGJ National Symposium. If you would like to host the symposium, please duplicate the bid form on the next page. Complete the information requested on the form and return it to René by March 1, 1991.

Changing Your Address?

If you are moving and wish to continue to receive your NAWGJ newsletter, please send change of address information directly to Betty Sroufe, the NAWGJ Secretary-Treasurer (address on front cover). Betty prepares all of the mailing labels for the newsletter and sends them to the newsletter editor. Please do not send address changes to the Newsletter Editor. Thank you.

Not Receiving Newsletters?

If you know of NAWGJ members who are not receiving the national newsletter, please ask them to contact Betty Sroufe, NAWGJ Secretary-Treasurer to make sure their membership is current and their address is correct. The newsletter is mailed at a special rate for non-profit organizations. Although this method greatly reduces the cost of mailing, it also has some limitations. One of them is that mail is not returned to the sender if an address is incomplete or inaccurate. Likewise, mail is not always forwarded if you have changed your address. The only way to ensure you will receive your newsletter is to maintain a current and accurate address file with Betty Sroufe.

References to Aschenbrenner Article

*Take This Job and Love It. (1988). Jaffe and Scott, Simon & Schuster, N. Y..

The Prophet. Kahlil Gibran.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF WOMEN'S GYMNASTICS JUDGES

Symposium Bid Form

Bid Submitted By		Date		
Address				
City, State		Zip Code		
Phone (home)	1	(Business)		
NAWGJ Position				
********		***********		
Hotel Selection (s)	(1)	Phone		
Contact Person	-	Phone		
Hotel Selection	(2)			
Contact Person		Phone		
Gymnasium Availah	oility			
Contact Person		Phone		
	for wanting to host	**************************************		
A				
Signature		Date		
1850 Eagl	ollai, Symposium Director e Trace Boulevard ings, Florida 33071	DEADLINE IS MARCH 1, 1991		

Test Procedures Clarified

Varina French
Certification Coordinator

Due to misinterpretation and an error in the Test Administrator Guide, many examinees have taken the 6/7 certification test who were not technically eligible to do so. The Certification Office was unable to fully monitor the eligibility of examinees because they were inundated with exams in 1989. The Certification Office processed 5,520 exams in the first year of the 1993 certification cycle. In order to avoid further misunderstanding, the Certification Office is restating the policy.

Testing Policy: Level 6/7

As of January 1, 1991, entry-level examinees will be allowed to test only at Level 5 or Level 8 or both. The 6/7 compulsory exam will be permitted only when the examinee has held a Level 5 rating for one certification year. Moving to Level 6/7 will be considered as advancing to the next highest level. All active status requirements, including practice judging, will be necessary before testing for Level 6/7. Level 6/7 will not be considered an entry-level option.

Judges who wish to test at Level 9 must hold the Level 5 rating and the Level 8 rating for one certification year (the year may run simultaneously). The 6/7 compulsory exam must be passed prior to taking the Level 9 written

test and the practical exam.

This is not a new policy or a policy change. It is a restatement of the original test sequence for certified judges as outlined at the onset of the 1993 ratings and as printed in the NAWGJ National Newsletter, Volume 11, #2 and in U.S. Gymnastics Federation magazine, <u>Technique</u>, AprilJune, 1989, Vol. 9, #2.

maintain a personal file that includes copies of rating cards, test result letters, and especially active status cards. If you ever have to verify your certification status, it will be necessary to produce this information.

When studying for the exam, be sure to review the USGF Technique Magazine for the latest additions and clarifications.

As of January 1, 1991, the 6/7 compulsory exam will be permitted only when the examinee has held a Level 5 rating for one certification year.

Must Have Letter to Test

When an examinee receives a letter from the Certification office stating what exams they have taken, the examinees must take the letter with them to their next exam. The letter must be shown to the test administrator to verify which level the examinee is eligible to test.

Other News From Varina

When an examinee is within one question of passing, the exam is automatically hand scored to audit computer reliability.

All judges are encouraged to

A total of 2,034 individuals hold a current rating. The state with the largest number of judges is California with 191. Delaware has the lowest number of judges (only two as of August, 1990).

The pass rate for exams taken between January 1 and August 31, 1990 ranged from a low of 52% on the Level 10 Optional test to a high of 92% on the practical exam.

Sixty-four percent of the Level 5 examinees passed the exam, 54% at Level 6/7, 75% at Level 8 Optional, 69% at Level 9 Optional, and 81% at Level 10 C.

News Update

New Educational Materials

Judy Dobransky, NAWGJ Educational Librarian, has announced the addition of two new items to the judging library.

Learning and Reviewing Shorthand is a workbook designed for beginners. Developed by Yvonne Hodge, NAWGJ President, this simple but comprehensive workbook is a great teaching tool. The workbook includes symbols for common gymnastics elements and gymnastics combinations. The price is right—only \$2.00.

Optional Index: Hip Pocket Code is a handy-dandy reference guide to skills in the Code of Points and USGF Supplement. Developed by Faye Keller of Ohio, this pocket-size book makes easy work of locating the value of elements because the elements are alphabetized within their groupings. The cover is laminated to avoid damage. Updates will be made available as elements are added or changed. The \$5.00 cost includes \$1.00 for mailing. If purchased at a clinic, the cost is \$4.00.

An order form for these and other educational materials is included on page 16 of this newsletter.

Dobransky the Librarian

Judy Dobransky, Brevet judge from Michigan, has enthusiastically responded to her new role as NAWGJ educational librarian. Judy brings 19 years of judging experience to the position. She was the Michigan NAWGJ State Judging Director for 12 years and is currently a Level Ten test administrator.

Burn-out doesn't seem to be a problem for Judy. Judy says judging has "filled full" the greater part of her life, added travel, lifelong friendships, and truly "ful-filled" her greatest wishes. Her greatest joy in gym-

World Games Seeks Volunteers

The 1993 World University Games will be held in Buffalo, New York on July 8 through 19th. More than 100 nations and 7,000 athletes will be represented. Because 1993 will be the 70th anniversary of the games, the organizers are planning a major spectacle to showcase the world class athletes. The organizers of the Games are looking for volunteers. If you are interested, write to World University Games, P.O. Box 623, Buffalo, New York 14060-0623.



Judy Dobransky

nastics has been watching the growth of her daughter through the developmental, elite, and collegiate programs. It's easy to see why Judy was named Region V Judge of the Year.

Shaky Beam: Unusual Occurrences

As the midwest was bracing for the predicted December 3rd earthquake, one Level Six gymnast had a more serious concern. Competing the day prior to the expected quake, she wanted her mother to ask the judges if she would be allowed to repeat her routine if the earthquake occurred while she was on the balance beam and fell.

Perhaps that's what is meant by "unusual occurrences" on the inquiry form!

NAWGJ Educational Library Order Form

Name:	Address:	
Phone:	City/State/Zip:	

I would like to order the following materials from the NAWGJ Educational Library.

Quantity	Description	Unit Price	Total
	Learning and Reviewing Shorthand Beginners workbook. Includes symbols for common elements and combinations. Developed by Yvonne Hodge	\$2.00	
	Optional Index: Hip Pocket Code Reference book of skills in the Code and Supplement alphabetized by grouping. Developed by Faye Keller	\$5.00	
	FIG Code of Points Print-Out Labels for Flash Cards Cards not included. Developed by Mary Van Grinsven	\$7.00	1
	Dance Manual Definitions and illustrations of dance terms in the 1989-92 Compulsories Developed by Linda Kardos Barnett	\$3.50	
	Compulsory Reference Sheets Includes symbols, elements, and deductions on one page. Great for using at your desk while judging. All events/ levels included. Developed by Yvonne Hodge	\$3.50	4

Total	•

Send order form and check to: Judy Dobransky NAWGJ Educational Library 3446 Gordan Drive Sterling Heights, Michigan 48310 313-264-2047

HATS OFF TO NAWGJ 10 - 15 YEAR MEMBERS

REGION I

Dianne Aitken (78) Wendy Atkinson (76) Linda Barclay (80) Cathy Bennion (80) Margaret Buttars (76) Rebecca Callaway (79) Ellie Chynoweth (79) Barbara Coates (78) Betty Crowley (76) Fran Earles (79) Karen Everill (79) Ricki Fell (76) Diann Haines (77) Kathleen Ham (77) Candy Hennessee (77) Elizabeth Holey (77) Anne Marie Jensen (78) Melanie Jensen (78) Jola Jones (79) Susan Jordan (79) Heidi Marsh (79) Valorie McKenzie (77) Mary Metcho (76) Neela Nelson (78) Donna Nicholson (78) Satomi Nishimoto (76) Sandra Person (77) Jami Pillasch (76) Denise Porrazzo (77) Mary Preece (79) Norma Rahl (77) Marlene Robbins (77) Marjorie Schultz (77) Wylagene Seal (79) Kathleen Sgamba (76) Joe Ann Taylor (78) Lisa Torres (79) Mayra Torres (79) Patrician Watts (77)

REGION II

Lee Bjella (79)
Denise Burt (77)
Loretta Cole (80)
Hannah Collins (78)
Marian Dewane (77)
Janet Earl (77)

REGION II (con't)

Mariorie Eilers (79) Kathy Harrison (80) Earla Harwell (79) Lori Heninger (78) Priscilla Hickey (77) June Houghton-Morlan (76) Susan Ideta (79) Debra Jannsen (79) Sherilyn Johns (80) Donna Lucero (77) Eugenia McElroy (78) Darlene Raymond (78) Laurie Reid (76) Cheryl Severns (80) Anita Sharratt (78) Laurel Tindall (77) Evadne Woodside (78)

REGION III

Judy Albrecht (78) Rogena Allison (77) Carolyn Bowen (77) Carole Bunge (76) Alice Childers (76) Denise Coats (77) Piper Dandridge (76) Pat Ethredge (77) Patricia Hacker (80) Judy Haight (77) Carol Hillenburg (77) Barbara Houlton (79) Barbara Hughes (79) Anita James (76) Jane Johnson (76) Debbie Kaitschuck (78) Deborah Kratz (80) Kathy Kuhn (76) Peggy Liddick (78) Mary Lee Martin (79) Mary McCabe (79) Donna Meinecke (80) Janette O'Brien (77) Mary Porter (78) Diane Preves (77) Dolores Reiter (78) Cori Rizzo (76)

Carol Robuck (78)

REGION III (con't)

Karen Schwarting (79)
Dena Scott (79)
Diann Smith (79)
Jackie Stumpff (79)
Adeline Towle (78)
Linda Wambsgans (78)
Sharon Weber (79)
Linda Weekes (78)

REGION IV

Jan Adkins (79) Cecilia Alexander (79) Carol Beckham (78) Connie Berens (79) Vicki Beveridge (77) Mary Bicknese (79) Marilyn Blilie (79) Marilyn Brickson (76) Donna Butikofer (77) Bernice Cahoy (78) Mary Ann Case (78) Dawne Clark-Bisceglia (79) Nancy Fischer (77) Elaine Herink (77) Cliftine Hinkle (78) Roberta Hoskovec (77) Thelma Hubbard (78) Linda Ivich (79) Vickie Kalthoff (77) Tom Koll (79) Diane LeBlanc (76) Linda McDonald (79) Beverly Morris (79) Roseann Motl (80) Robin Ruegg (78) Sandra Scharf (78) Debbie Sohn (80) Linda Thorberg (78) Connie Tomes (78) Mary Van Grinsven (77) Terri Watermeier (78) Mary Ann West (76) Penni Westrum (80) Michele Wiley (80) Maureen Wissel (79)

REGION V

Carol Arnaut (79) David Ballenger (79) Judith Ballenger (79) Kathy Belli (80) Betty Bennett (78) Dale Brown (76) Roberta Bultemeier (80) Ann Coleman (76) Lorie Cook (76) Pat Crawford (76) Sara Danke (79) Cathy Dwyer (79) Johanna Edwards (79) Launa Engelbrecht (79) Sandra Evanoff (76) Nancy Finch (76) Barbara Giulivo (77) Paula Hartwick (78) Jan Heppner (76) Joanne Hester (77) Jennifer Host (77) Debbie Howell (76) Nancy Hulshult (76) Lucille Hunsinger (77) Pat Jones (79) Kathy Kelly (78) Kathie Klages (78) Kathy Koeth (77) Judy Kohn (80) Mary Kutcosky (79) Susan Leininger (77) Sharon Long (76) Beth McAdams (76) Cynthia McConnell (79) Susan McNamara (76) John McNie (80) Lois Mowry (78) Arlene Norris (79) Sandy Oldham (79) Kim Penix (80) Kaye Pinkowski (79) Pam Poe (78) Gini Racin (76) Kim Riley (76) Diane Roberts (77) Mary Roth (79) Sandra Rudman (77)

Wanda Schick (78)

REGION V (con't)

Helen Skvarka (79) Linda Stott (77) Donna Trevethan (79) Sophia Upson (77) Lucille Weber (78) Susan Mary Yost (79)

REGION VI

Sharon Along (78) Carlene Arsenault (79) Elaine Audy (77) Mary Bakke (78) Margarete Bonkiewicz (78) Linda Bowser (77) Beverley Bryant (76) James Burton (76) Bonnie Butsch (76) Rosemarie Carlucci (76) Marie Carpenter (78) Patricia Cascio (79) Donna Cerefice (80) Linda Chencinski (78) Susan Christofi (78) Carol Cinelli (77) Sarah Bernhardt Clifford (78) Leora Cohen (78) Diane Cote-Burk (77) Marianne Davis (80) Lorraine Duffy (80) Marie Durham (80) Denise Edmonds (76) Patricia Faulkner (79) Kathleen Feldmann (77) Christine Field (77) Joyce Foray (79) Mikki Geenty (77) Larry Goldsmith (77) Jill Henderson (80) Barbara Hess (76) Donna Kuzio (77) Lori LeClair (78) Lisa Lieberman (76) Joanne Luciano (79) Susan Maclean (77) Tim Madore (80) Mary Marino (80) Patricia McDiarmid (79) Gail McGann (76) Ruth McGowan (78) Raelene Metko (77) Carol Miller (78) Ruth Morse (76) Shelley O'Brien (79) Kathleen Ostberg (77)

REGION VI (con't)

Pat Panichas (76) Jeanne Peckham (79) Debbie Pelletier (77) Susan Prentis (79) Patricia Sawyer (79) Marilyn Schnaars (78) Vivian Siddell (80) Marylou Smith (79) Helen Soohoo (80) Beth Storey (79) Elizabeth Sullivan (78) Paula Summit (80) Hollis Szabo (76) Karin Viafore (78) Nina Warner (78) Mimi Winkler (78) Nina Young (79)

REGION VII

Jane Caruso (78)
Chrystal Chollet-Norton (76)
Gwynne Comiskey (77)
Elizabeth Cooper (79)
Patricia Crawley (79)
Joan Crepps (78)
Barbara Cutillo (77)
Nancy Daller (77)
Darlene Dolbow (76)
Myra Elfenbein (78)
Kathi Evans (77)
Shelley Feinberg (77)
Catherine Finkel (76)
Pat Frew (77)

Alice Gooley (78)

REGION VII (con't)

Elizabeth Gruber (80) Cheryl Hamilton (76) Rose Hollingshead (76) Barbara Jirka (77) Annette Kardos (77) Joyce Krivak (78) Amber Lloyd (77) Judi McCov (77) Theresa McGirk (77) Carole Micsion (80) Margie Myers (77) Carol Neiman (77) Mary Ann Olson (78) Joe Passalaqua (80) Amy Rager (79) Elizabeth Renwick (80) Carolyn Rugloski (78) Eileen Sheldon (79) Marilyn Smith (77) Danette Spencer (79) Bonnie Ann Synol (78) Shirley Tranquill (77) Deborah Turlip (80) Katherine Vicario (78) Cynthia Wagner (77) Chris Yatchyshyn (76) Debra Yohman (80)

REGION VIII

Amy Arnts (77) Sue Beale (77) Marilyn Bishop (79) Donna Bouley (78) Rita Brown (80)

REGION VIII (con't)

Sharon Brown (79) Virginia Browne (79) Donna Bryant (79) Jennifer Carter (77) Dorothy Cook (79) Mary Lou Dillard (80) Marian Dykes (79) Brenda Eberhardt (78) Marie Egan (77) Dianna Gasquez (79) Judy Grounds (77) Paulette Hadarits (80) Valerie Hammond (79) Carol Ingold (79) Lydia Jennings (79) Sue Ann King (76) Patricia Moore (77) Rene Niccollai (76) Paula Northuis (78) Julie O'Brien (79) Rebecca Oppenheimer (79) Marjorie Pearce (76) Sheila Ragle (77) Lisa Savage (79) Joy Schmidt (79) Janet Skaggs (78) Carol Smitherman (80) Jennie Stephenson (77) Josey Templeton (76) Elaine Thompson (76) Anne Vogel (77) Mary Ann Wallace (78) Debbie Walls (80) Christina White (79) Robert White (79)



Thanks to Betty Sroufe, NAWGJ National Secretary-Treasurer, for preparing this list of members.

Super Symposium in Region V

"Simply the Best" was an appropriate theme for the 1990 Region V Symposium. Co-directors Betty Sroufe and Betty Heppner put together a program that couldn't be beat.

Day One featured a welcome from the new NAWGJ President, Yvonne Hodge. Next, Dale Brown, Vice President for the World Championships, gave a report on the upcoming 1991 World Championships in Indianapolis. Suzuko Riewe wowed the participants by demonstrating dance in it's purest form. So that's what a body wave should look like!

Day Two had something for everyone. Joanne Aschenbrenner provided motivation and rejuvenation. Shorthand sessions and practice judging sessions were available for the beginner through the elite judging levels. Linda Kardos-Barnett clarified dance skills that are frequently in question (see article in this newsletter). Mike Jacki, USGF Executive Director, joined participants before dinner and discussed the latest news from USGF. A highlight of the entire Symposium came after dinner when Muriel Grossfeld fascinated the

audience with her humorous anecdotes about her beginnings in gymnastics and her father's response to the news that she had made the Olympic team. There wasn't a soul in the audience who wasn't in stitches.

The third day found the participants in the new USGF Training Center facility. Several elite gymnasts were on hand to demonstrate advanced skills. Muriel Grossfeld treated participants to suggestions for judging vault (see article in this newsletter). More importantly, she shared her philosophy regarding this event (vault is about flight!) and suddenly all of those deductions took on new meaning. Gary Warren, coach of Queen City Gymnastics, worked with advanced and elite level gymnasts to demonstrate compulsory and optional bar elements the way they're "supposed" to be performed!

This Symposium gets better and better every time it is held. The next one is scheduled for November, 1993. Plan now to attend. It's open to all judges in the United States. Don't miss out!

Gary Warren, Head Coach at Queen City Gymnastics in Cincinnati, was the bars and tumbling clinician at the Symposium. Gary has coached seven elite gymnasts including two who made the U.S. National Team. Gary's greatest thrill in gymnastics came in 1986 when one of his gymnasts, Katherine Kelleher, made the Senior National Team at the USA Championships held at Market Square Arena in Indianapolis.



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Shorthand Practice For Beginners

Brenda Burman, NAWGJ State Judging Director for Michigan, has developed shorthand practice pads for the compulsory bar routines. Brenda leaves these practice pads by her telephone. Instead of doodling while she's on the telephone, she practices her shorthand! She says it doesn't take too long until the symbols come naturally.

This seemed like to good of an idea to keep secret, so here are Brenda's practice sheets for your use. She has given permission to duplicate as many copies as you'd like. Thanks to Brenda for this great idea for practicing shorthand.



Besides being active in judging, Brenda is a semiretired speech therapist. She came to the sport as a mother of a talented gymnast, took a judging class, "got bit", and has been actively involved ever since.

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Level 7	4	4 9	4	3	3	3	4	3	4	9	
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Shorthand Practice for Advanced Judges

Carole Liedtke, Brevet judge, is famous for her knowledge of judging rules and shorthand. She's always thinking up new ways to help the judges in Kentucky, where she's the State Judging Director. Carole has developed worksheets to help judges improve their shorthand recognition, practice value raising skills, and apply bonus connections. We'll publish the worksheet for bars in this issue of the newsletter. Watch future newsletters for balance beam and floor exercise worksheets.

ВА	RS PRACTICE SHEET Carole Liedtke	r
One	Two	Three
luy + luz	4 + x1	4 + N
value value bonus connection		
Four	Five	Six
-SI + W	J + may	x + weer
Seven	Eight	Nine
3+4+6	A + 4	ب ب ب
Ten	Eleven	Twelve
पं + त्र्व	-8 S	1 + - 8
Thirteen	Fourteen	Fifteen
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Sixteen	Seventeen	Eighteen
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Nineteen He	Twenty	Twenty-one
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Twenty-two	Twenty-three	Twenty-four
0/1 mg	-S+ 4	W + 600

	ANSWERS
1.	C + Cv
2.	C + D1v (+1)
3.	C + Dv (+1)
4.	C + Dv (+1)
5.	C + D2 (+1)
5.	C1 + D
7.	D1+Dv1 + D1 (+1,+1)
3.	D2 + Dv (+1)
).	D1 + D1 (+2)
10.	C2 + D1
11.	C + D1v
12.	C + Dv (+1)
13.	C+C
14.	D2 + D1 (+2)
15.	C1 + Dv
	C1 + Cv
17.	C1 + Dv (+1)
18. 19.	D2 + Dv (+1) C1 + Dv
19. 20.	C + DV C + D1v
20.	C + Dv (+1)
22.	A + B
23.	B + D2
24.	C1 + D1v
	are the symbols Carol others are also acceptable
v = va	llue raised to this value

The Eighth Bi-Annual

National Women's Gymnastics Judges Symposium

June 26 -- June 29, 1991

Clinicians include Yvonne Hodge, Audrey Schweyer, Shirley Tranquill, Ruth Morse, Cheryl Hamilton, and Joanne Aschenbrenner.

The sites of Portland and the scenic, rugged Maine coast await you at Symposium. Cruise Portland Harbor. Visit the famed Portland Head Light. Stroll the Old Port District. And shop in scenic Freeport or the Maine Mall, the largest shopping center in Northern New England.

Registration materials have been mailed. If you have not received your registration brochure, contact Dr. Mary McLellan, 1991 Symposium Director (address on front cover of this newsletter).

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

February 22-23, 1991 Orlando, Florida American Cup McDonald's Intn'l Mixed Pairs February 26, 1991 Atlanta, Georgia March 15-17, 1991 U.S. Challenge Allentown, Penn. April 11-12, 1991 Collegiate Championships (II/III) Davis, California April 19-20, 1991 NCAA Women's Championships Tuscaloosa, Alabama April 27-28, 1991 Level 9 East/West Championships TBA May 4-5, 1991 Level 10 Junior Nationals Chicago, Illinois May 11, 1991 **Cup of Champions** Fairfax, Virginia Level 10 Senior Nationals May 11-12, 1991 TBA May 18, 1991 U.S. Classic Hunnington Beach, Cal June 7-9, 1991 Championships of the U.S.A. Cincinnati, Ohio June 22-23, 1991 U.S. Olympic Cup TBA June 26-29, 1991 NAWGJ National Symposium Portland, Maine June 29-30, 1991 National Judges Cup Portland, Maine July 12-21, 1991 U.S. Olympic Festival Los Angeles, Cal. Gymnastics World Championships Sept. 7 - 15, 1991 Indianapolis, Indiana July 8 - 19, 1993 The World University Games Buffalo, New York

The Olympic Games

NAWGJ 1308 A Kingsridge Court Normal, IL 61761

Summer, 1996

Nonprofit Organization

Atlanta, Georgia

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