

STANDING PROUD



Coach Chris Conner (back left) and Coach Monica Subieta of Platinum Gymnastics stand proud with Kathleen "Katy" Eliasen (left), Marisa Threet, and Sloane Silverman after competing in the Level 7 All-Star Texas Challenge Dec. 8. Courtesy Photo

Gymnasts progress to next level

By Grace Borengasser
Staff Writer

PFLUGERVILLE - Local gymnasts Kathleen Eliasen, Marisa Threet and Sloane Silverman put in four months of training to compete in the Level 7 All-Star Texas Challenge Dec. 8.

By placing 3rd and 6th, Eliasen and Threet have earned the honor of representing the state of Texas in the National Judges Cup in San Diego Jan. 4 - 6. The top six girls from all 50 states will compete. Their overall score was based on their individual efforts on vault, bars, beam, and floor exercises. Eliasen stunned the crowd with a 9.7 on balance beam and tied with Threet on vault both earning a 9.775. Eliasen placed 3rd overall with an all-around score of 38.15 and Threet placed 6th with an all-around score of 38.05. The other four gymnasts advancing to San Diego with Team Texas are from Mesquite and Dallas.

This is the first year the meet has been held in California. Last year

Texas brought home the first place trophy and they are determined to do it again.

Conner said she is enthusiastic about the competition.

"Team Texas is one of the strongest teams in the country. All the judges, coaches, gymnasts, and parents (of Texas) are going there to win! We want to bring back the 1st place trophy to the great state of Texas," she said.

The girls train at Platinum Gymnastics of Pflugerville and are coached by gym owners Chris Conner and Monica Subieta. Subieta has been coaching these gymnasts for several years.

Each girl trains an average of 25 hours a week at Platinum Gymnastics. It opened three months ago when coaches Chris Conner and Monica Subieta decided to join forces and become business partners. Conner said, "We have a great partnership." Subieta has been coaching for 12 years and Conner for over 20. Their own interests in gymnastics also began as young girls; they were both gymnasts themselves. Conner

said, "Gymnastics is my life. I love what I do and I love enriching kid's lives."

Their mission statement specifically encapsulates Conner and Subieta's goals. "It is the mission of Platinum Gymnastics Academy to develop young people into gymnasts who represent the Gymnastics association with respect, dignity, and core values.

Platinum Gymnastics Academy strives to create competitive opportunities for members of all ages and skill levels to learn gymnastics, cheerleading, and tumbling in a positive atmosphere that fosters growth and success."

Platinum Gymnastics Academy has opened at 1410 Royston Lane. Platinum offers everything from girls and boys mommy and me classes, recreational class, cheer tumbling, and competitive gymnastics. Platinum's special event offers are Birthday Parties, Spring Camps, and Summer Camps. For more information, call 251-2776 or visit www.go2platinum.org for more information.



Above: Katy Eliasen performs a plie on the balance beam. Right: Marisa Threet salutes. Both girls will be competing in San Diego Jan. 4 - 6.

