

# MEDIA RELEASE

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## Gerein Qualifies for Youth Olympic Games

Okanagan Gymnastics trampoline team of twelve athletes and two coaches traveled to Daytona Beach, Florida for the 2010 Pan American Championships. Kelowna is home to multiple medalists!

Twelve athletes from Kelowna and West Kelowna traveled with their coaches Angelo Despotas and Jamie Gardner, all from Okanagan Gymnastics Centre in Kelowna.

The top highlight from Pan Am Championships goes to Curtis Gerein who qualified for Youth Olympics Games which will be held in Singapore August 14-26<sup>th</sup>, 2010. The Youth Olympic Games are for athletes 17 years and younger and contain all of the same sports as the regular Olympic Games. Gerein and his coach Despotas will both be taking part in that prestigious competition. Gerein showed another strong finish in Daytona Beach with a bronze medal in the Men's Junior Individual trampoline competition and a second bronze medal in the Men's 17+ Double Mini Trampoline event.

The Okanagan Gymnastics team that travelled to Daytona Beach, Florida all travelled to gain international experience. For eleven athletes and Coach Gardner, this competition was their first international experience. All of these athletes need to travel to an international competition as a club to gain international experience to be considered by Gymnastics Canada for the Canadian Team. Once athletes are Canadian Team Members, then they will be eligible to represent Canada at other international competitions, such as the Indo-Pacific Championships and World Age Groups.

Highlights from Daytona Beach include:

Danielle Gruber is bringing home three silver medals in the Women's 11-12 year old category, from her first trip to Pan Am Age Groups. She finished with silver medals on the Individual Trampoline event, Double Mini Trampoline as well as in the Women's Synchronized Trampoline with her partner Emma Tucker. Tucker earned herself her second medal, a bronze, in the double mini trampoline event 11-12 year olds just behind Gruber.

Rachel Stone and Brynn Tucker earned gold for their efforts for Synchronized Trampoline in the 13-14 year old category. Brynn Tucker also finished with a bronze medal also in the Double Mini Trampoline event for 13-14 year olds.

Trevor Stirling won his single medal, gold, in the Men's Individual Trampoline in the 15-16 year old category.

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