STATE GYMNASTICS - FEBRUARY 21-22, 2014

The State "A" and "AA" Gymnastics Meet will be held this year at Aberdeen Central High School. The TEAM competition and INDIVIDUAL & ALL-AROUND competition are divided into two separate days.

This year will continue last year's new format for the team competition. While each class will be competing only against other schools in their own class, the two classes will be competing at the same time alternating gymnasts on each apparatus. The opening ceremony for the combined team session will begin at 11:45 a.m. on Friday, February 21st.

Saturday, February 22nd, competition continues at Aberdeen Central High School with the INDIVIDUAL & ALL-AROUND COMPETITION. Opening ceremonies for Class "A" competition begin at 9:15 a.m. Opening ceremonies for Class "AA" competition will begin at 4:15 p.m. The top 20 individuals in the four events, plus all-around, will be crowned following each session on Saturday.

All sessions will be using the Capital Cup format with teams warming up in the practice gym, then immediately competing on that event in the main gym.

Class "A"

Nine teams will compete for the Team Championship. These teams represent the top two teams from each of the two region meets, along with the next five highest team scores from the region meets. Teams competing are Britton-Hecla, Chamberlain, Deuel, Hot Springs, Madison, Milbank, Sisseton, Stanley County, and Vermillion.

The Deuel team will be defending their 2013 championship.

Madison had the top qualifying meet team score with 140.700. The top individual event qualifying scores are as follows: Jennie Giles of Madison on Vault with a score of 9.050 and on Floor Exercise with a score of 9.500; Shannon Winthers of Madison on Uneven Bars with a score of 9.175 and on Balance Beam with a score of 9.600. Jenni Giles of Madison also had the high score in the All-Around competition with a 36.725.

A new champion will be crowned in each of the four events, as well as in the All Around competition in 2014.

In addition to the 9 teams qualifying for team and individual competition, Wagner, Wall/Kadoka Area/Philip, Warner, and West Central also qualified individuals for the State Meet.

87 gymnasts will be competing in Class "A" over the two-day state meet.

Class "AA"

Nine teams will compete for the Team Championship. These teams represent the top two teams from each of the two qualifying meets, along with the next five highest team scores from the qualifying meets. Teams competing are Aberdeen Central, Brookings, Huron, Mitchell, Pierre T.F. Riggs, Rapid City Central, Sioux Falls O'Gorman, Watertown, and Yankton/BonHomme.

Rapid City Central is returning to defend their team title this year. Mitchell had the top qualifying meet team score with 148.775. The top individual event qualifying scores are as follows: a tie on Vault with a score of 9.500 for Chelsey Christensen of Rapid City Central and Taylor Schweitzer of Aberdeen Central; Krisia Bramer of Watertown on Floor Exercise with a score of 9.750; Colette Christensen of Rapid City Central on Balance Beam with a score of 9.625; and a tie on Uneven Bars with a score of 9.725 for Chelsey Christensen of Rapid City Central and Krisia Bramer of Watertown. Quinci Herll of Mitchell had the high score in the All-Around competition with a 37.900.

Colette Christensen of Rapid City Central returns to defend her 2013 championships in vault, uneven bars, and all-around. Chelsey Christensen of Rapid City Central is returning to defend her championship in the floor exercise. A new champion will be crowned in the Class AA balance beam competition as Lynne Hanten of Watertown, 2013 balance beam champion, has graduated.

In addition to the 9 teams qualifying for team competition, Sioux Falls Washington, Sioux Falls Lincoln, Sioux Falls Roosevelt, and Rapid City Stevens also qualified individuals for the State Meet.

92 gymnasts will be competing in Class "AA" over the two-day state meet.