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the *australian* GYMNAST

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President
* Jim Barry

Executive Director/Publisher
* Peggy Browne

Editor
* Peter Murden

Correspondent
* Peter Hassan

AGF Board Elected Delegates
* Dolores Martin
* Bob Wherrett
* Steve Chetkovich

M.A.G. Technical Director
* Ken Williamson

W.A.G. Technical Director
* Kym Dowdell

R.S.G. Technical Director
* Margaret Lanz

Development Director
* Peter Murden

Overseas Contributor
* Mandi Shields
* Robert Kensit

Photographers
* Warwick Forbes
* Ross Gould
* Peter Meyers

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Front Cover: Kylie Shadbolt
Photo courtesy Ross Gould

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Peggy Browne



In this regard, Senator Richardson, who is the Minister Responsible for Sport, was suitably challenged by being at the Olympic Games and has fulfilled his commitment by achieving a tremendous injection of funds for sport. Injection of funds is not without its responsibility and accountability by the Federation and sports people concerned. We welcome both the injection of funds and also the greater accountability that is necessary. For the sports of Gymnastics, the future looks extremely bright and coupled with the dedication of our personnel, we should have an opportunity to achieve, particularly in the international area which has been so difficult for us in the past, not the talent but the financial support.

We join with other sports in applauding the Minister for Sport, Senator Richardson, for achieving such a goal in times of economical hardship.

Peggy Browne

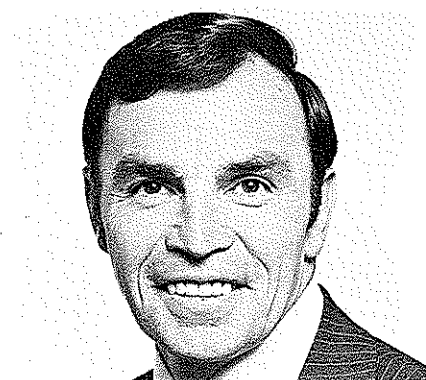
Senator Graham Richardson, Minister for the Arts, Sport, The Environment, Tourism and Territories, was sent the following telegram from the Gymnastic Federation:

Congratulations on achieving a significant increase in funding for sport, particularly in this time of economic hardship.

Once again, the Olympic Games have provided the necessary catalyst for politicians to understand the importance of sport in our society. Not only the achievement of medals but also the belated spin offs which come with sports men and sports women. These being; the fine ambassadorial role they play whilst overseas; their commitment to achieve, and their willingness to sacrifice many components of a lifestyle which the rest of the community enjoys.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

James E. Barry



It is some time since the 1982 Commonwealth Games in Brisbane and some people had to be reminded of the Commonwealth Gymnastic Federation Championship that was held in conjunction with the Pacific Alliance series in Brisbane just prior to the Games. Gymnastics has come a long way since that event and our ability to organise International events has also improved.

Michael Browning and Associates underwrote the event and combined with the Federation and the Queensland Gymnastic Association in hosting the eleven nation quality event.

It is interesting to note that Michael Browning was the Marketing Director of the Brisbane Commonwealth Games and has had wide experience in sports promotion. He was the man who organised the successful inaugural Pan Pacific Swimming Championships in 1988.

The enthusiasm that abounded in Brisbane in June in relation to the International Competition, the "Konica Grand Prix" had to be seen to be believed.

Michael felt that Gymnastics was a natural for another such event so after negotiation the Federation subsumed its Australia Cup into the Konica Grand Prix.

It is also interesting to note that Konica, who joined forces with the Federation to host the Bicentennial International Konica Cup in Sydney in 1988, wanted to be involved in this event which is most satisfying for our sport.

The competition itself is reported elsewhere, but I must comment on the fairytale ending to the competition with Kylie Shadbolt winning Women's Artistic Gymnastics first Gold medal in an international apparatus final of this calibre. This came close to equalling Ken Meredith's Individual All Around Gold in Czechoslovakia in 1988 and provided another "kilometrestone" for our sport. However, to return to the fairytale ending; Michael Browning had arranged for the audience to have streamers to throw for the closing ceremony, so we were fortunate that Kylie's was the last medal presented. The spontaneous response from the audience was wonderful and as Michael said he could not have scripted it better.

The organisation and presentation of the event was excellent and a credit to all those involved.

The event also provided the opportunity to show off the new training facility which is adjacent to the

Chandler Sport Centre and provided a perfect warm-up hall.

The Federation is proud to be associated with another first rate facility. The enthusiasm of the Queensland Gymnastic Association and the support of the Brisbane City Council and the Queensland Government is greatly appreciated.

The Federation is now involved at the International level with the World Championships in Rhythmic Gymnastics in Sarajevo in September and the Artistic in Stuttgart in October. These important events are followed by the Commonwealth Games in Auckland where Artistic Gymnastics has been reintroduced into the programme along with Rhythmic for the first time. That in Government funding terms is most important for our elite and general development as it will provide an important benchmark as to our progress since we commenced at the Australian Institute of Sport. We wish all teams the very best of good luck as they carry our aspirations for our future.

To return to the Konica Grand Prix; that was another important step in our hosting of international events. The Federation sincerely thanks all who were involved and the Board now has a number of options as to when and how the next International event will be hosted.

James E. Barry

Ansett International Travel Recognised

AGF President, Jim Barry, presenting an AGF Wall Plaque to Daman Rapke of Ansett International Travel. The plaque was given in appreciation of A.I.T.'s support of gymnastics. Daman accepted on behalf of National Accounts Manager, Peter Hagan.





1989 KONICA GYMNASTIC GRAND PRIX

Photographs courtesy Ross Gould

by Peter Hassan

The 1989 Konica Gymnastic Grand Prix was carried off with aplomb and razzmatazz, possessing all the colour and music, excitement and drama of the world class event it was. Boasting many of the current stars of world gymnastics, nineteen of whom were Seoul Olympians, this competition introduced in this post Olympic lull an outstanding group of newcomers to international competition.

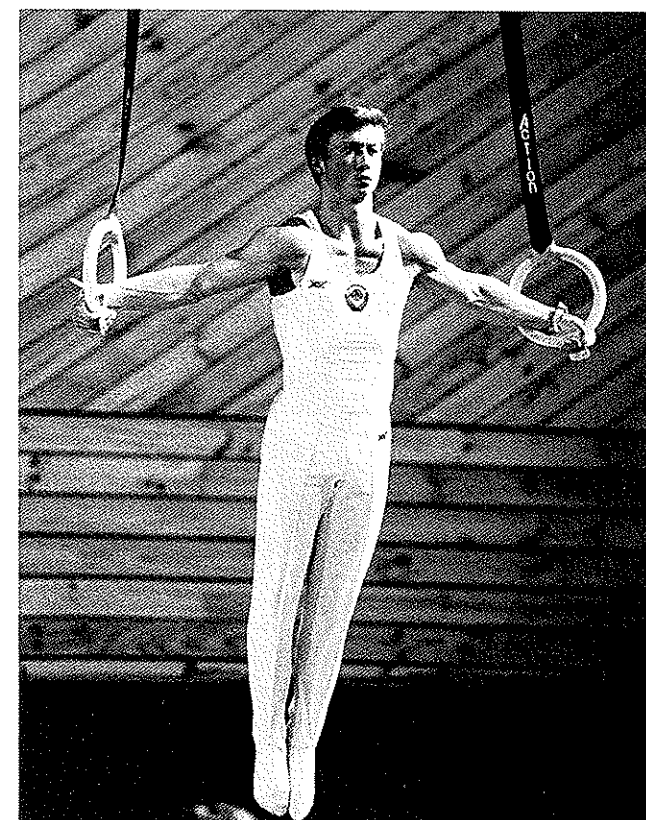
Konica, Michael Browning and Associates, the Australian Gymnastic Federation, and the Queensland Gymnastic Association, can be justly proud of the 1989 Konica Gymnastic Grand Prix.

The competitions were held over four nights, alternating between a combination of Mens, RSG and Womens events, each of the disciplines starting with the all-around competitions, and concluding on the Friday and Saturday nights with the event finals.

MENS COMPETITION

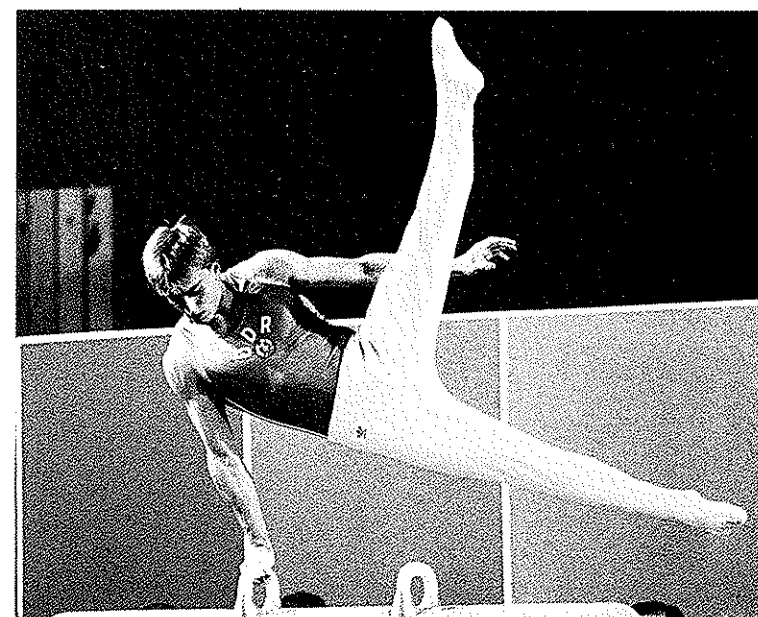
The big guns in the mens competition were undoubtedly the very experienced Sylvio Kroll (RDA)—2nd on vault at the Seoul Olympics, Sven Tippelt (RDA)—4th All-Around, 3rd on parallel bars at the Seoul Olympics, and Curtis Hibbert (CAN)—1st on floor, parallel bars and high bar in Seoul. The team from the Peoples Republic of China showed up with a talented trio of gymnasts who were more than capable of demonstrating that China was going to continue to be one of the leading forces in mens gymnastics. Vladimir Schepochkin (URS) returned to Australia for the second time, in as many years, at Konica's second sponsorship of an Australian gymnastic event. Unfortunately he was not to take the first place as he did last year, but fifth. He was superceded by the Chinese, Yu Bo and Nong Quiang, and fellow Soviet gymnasts Grigory Misyutin and Dimitry Vorobiev, obviously being given the experience of this Australian competition.

Curtis Hibbert (CAN)—Silver Medal

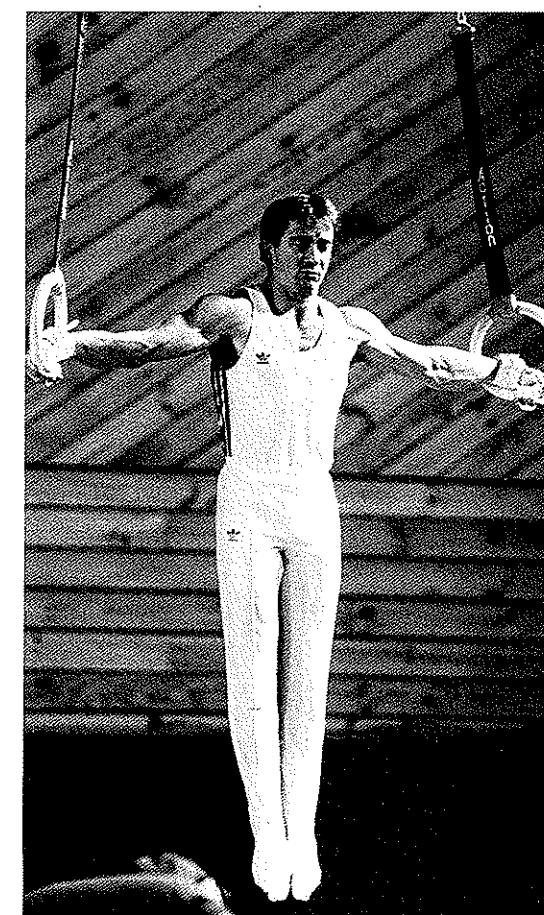


Vladimir Schepochkin (URS)—Gold Medal—Rings

Sylvio Kroll was consistent enough to take the gold medal, with Misyutin and Bo winning the silver and bronze medals in the All-Around competition. Grant Carlyon in sixteenth place was to lead the Australian charge with an apparatus high score of 9.6 on high bar. Fellow Australian, Werner Birnbaum followed in 18th place, his top score a 9.5 on rings. Mark Mommsen really hit on the high bar, dismounting with a tkachev to immediate tucked double back salto. Ken Meredith came back to international competition following a bout with injury. While not competing on floor, Ken showed his usual high standard on pommel—9.55, rings—9.6, and parallel bars—9.5.



Mens finals traditionally commence with the floor exercises, which were dominated at this competition by the Chinese gymnasts Quiang and Bo, with Misyutin taking the bronze medal. Sylvio Kroll maintained his position as leading qualifier on the pommel horse to win the gold on that event, ahead of Vorobiev and Schepochkin, with Ken Meredith scoring a very creditable 9.45. *Ken really showed us his stuff on rings, to share the bronze medal* with Sven Tippelt, just behind the gold medallist on that event, Vladimir Schepochkin and silver medallist Yu Bo. Curtis Hibbert went into the vault final in equal third position, but maintained his consistency to take the gold ahead of British gymnast James May, and Jans Milbradt (RDA). Parallel bars was a very closely fought battle with Dimitry Vorobiev narrowly edging out Curtis Hibbert and Alexandro Viligiardi (ITA). The horizontal bar featured performances of the highest standard of the competition with Dimitry Vorobiev a sensation, showing a Gaylord salto, tkachev to catch in mixed grip to immediate gienger, to score a 9.95. Curtis Hibbert's medal winning form was also evident in his 9.9 exercise. Sven Tippelt also hit with a 9.875 to take the bronze medal.

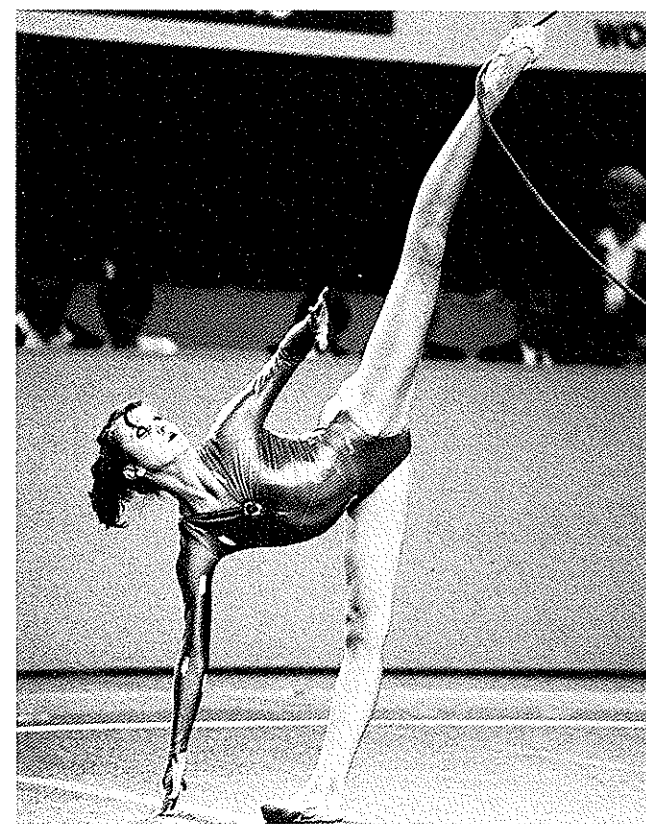


Above: Ken Meredith (AUS)—Bronze Medal—Rings.
Left: Sylvio Kroll (GDR)—Gold Medal—Pommel Horse

RSG COMPETITION

Larissa Medvedeva (URS), the upcoming star of the international rhythmic gymnastic scene, once again dominated a Konica gymnastic event in Australia, following her triumph in the Bicentennial competition held in Sydney in 1988.

The first night was the All-Around competition, the first two apparatus—rope and hoop. Larissa managed to score on both these apparatus ahead of the unknown Bulgarian—Albena Loukanova, 11th All-Around in Seoul—Qiong Pang (PRC), Jennifer Hopkins (CAN)—1987 World Championship representative. The final two apparatus for the evening were ball and ribbon, with Albena Loukanova making a charge to top score in ribbon. Larissa was able to maintain her lead to win the overall competition with the silver going to Albena Loukanova and the bronze to Qiong Pang.



*Above & Below: Larissa Medvedeva RSG Gold Medalist Overall
—Rope, Hoop, Ball. Bronze Medal—Ribbon.*

Larissa went on, following the All-Around competition to win three of the four apparatus titles—rope, hoop and ball, with Loukanova winning the ribbon. The 1989 Australian Champion, **Amanda Douglas**, finished the competition in 9th place with an overall score of 35.2, and qualifying for the apparatus finals of rope and ribbon, with **Heather Obremski** in 10th place with a score of 34.2.

The rope final was dominated by Medvedeva, who managed to push the possibilities of apparatus handling to new limits. The highlight of her rope exercise at this competition, was to flick the rope from a wrapped position around both feet on the floor, the rope flying backwards so that it wrapped around the free leg held in a perfectly split scale, the ends rotating about the floor at right angles. Truly amazing stuff!! The silver and bronze medals for that event were won by Loukanova and Pang respectively. Larissa managed to hold off her competitors by the widest margin of .2 in the hoop final, ahead of a very classical routine performed by Pang. The Canadians Jody Hamm and Jennifer Hopkins, tied for the bronze medals, after the silver medallist Loukanova. The gold in the ribbon went to Loukanova, .1 ahead of Medvedeva's 9.35, with the second Chinese gymnast Quian Zhou winning the bronze medal.

WOMENS COMPETITION

Some statistics from the womens competition, 29 participants from 9 nations; highest apparatus score 9.95—Laschenova on vault in the All-Around competition; medal count (All-Around and apparatus finals) Soviet Union —8, Peoples Republic of China—4, Australia—3.

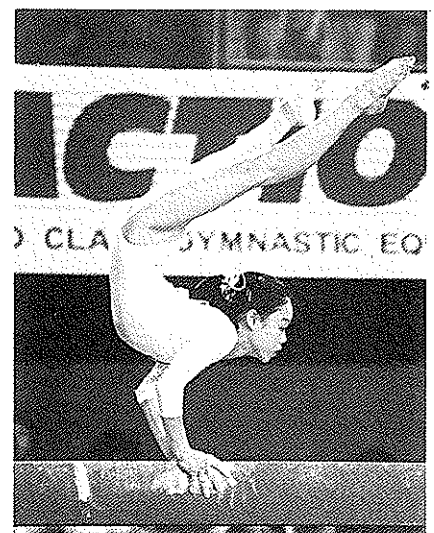
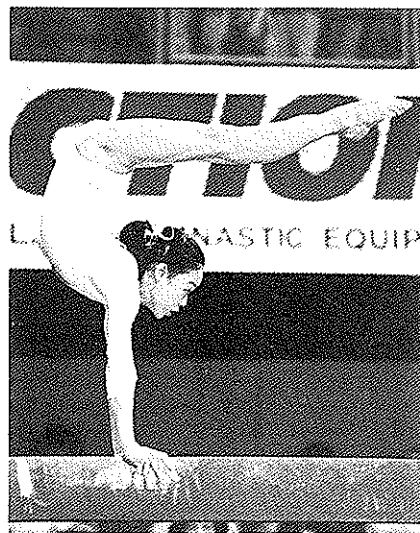
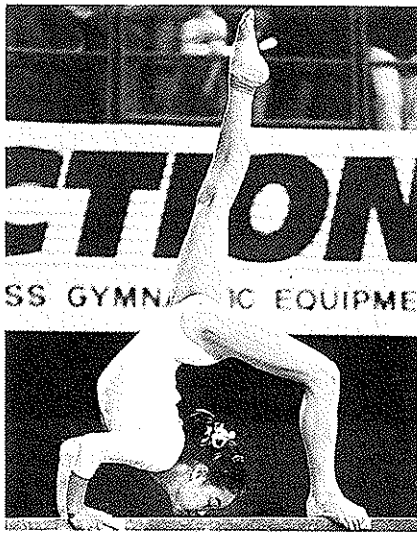
The number of nations and the quality of the gymnasts entered in this competition demonstrates the high esteem Australia is held in the world gymnastic community.

That diminutive Olympian from the Soviet Union, Natalia Laschenova, was to dominate the competition, ahead of the very experienced Elena Shevchenko, and the winner of the 1988 Pacific Alliance Championships—Yang Bo (PRC).

The first round of the All-Around competition saw the Australians on floor. **Kylie Shadbolt** managed to top score for the Aussies with 9.6—her opening tumbling pass a sensational double layout salto. Meanwhile the Soviet girls were on bars, Elena Abdashitova —9.6 for a stock international exercise, Shevchenko—9.55 (her worst apparatus she told me later), and Laschenova (tkachev and gienger) for a 9.85.

In the second rotation the Australian's had a break, while the Chinese commenced their competition on vault—Yang 9.8 and Luo 9.825, both girls vaulting a full twisting layout Yurchenko. The Soviet trio progressed to beam with Laschenova maintaining her lead (a marvellous flic flac layout two feet) for 9.85.





Yang Bo (CHN)—Gold Medal—Beam

3 rules were applied with each girl having to show vaults from two different groups. This rule was certainly in Monique's favour, where although coming into the final as the seventh qualifier, the new rule of the final score being the average of the two vaults performed on the day, came into play. A neat layout tsukahara complimented by a solid landing, teamed with a second vault of a confident handspring front tucked salto gave Monique a 9.625. Laschenova's handspring front half and full twisting layout Yurchenko, enabled her to win the gold with a total of 9.925. The qualifying order changed in the final result of the bar final, with Yang Bo winning the gold, Laschenova the silver, with a consistent Monique in 3rd place and Trudi in the fourth spot. The two gymnast per nation rule, really hurt in the bar final, with all the Australian girls performing so well on this apparatus. Yang Bo was the model of consistency on beam—9.9, Xia Zhang improved on her first round performance (9.8—full twisting Korbuto) to win the silver, with Laschenova taking home the bronze medal. Elizabeth Okino (USA) highlighted her 9.7 effort

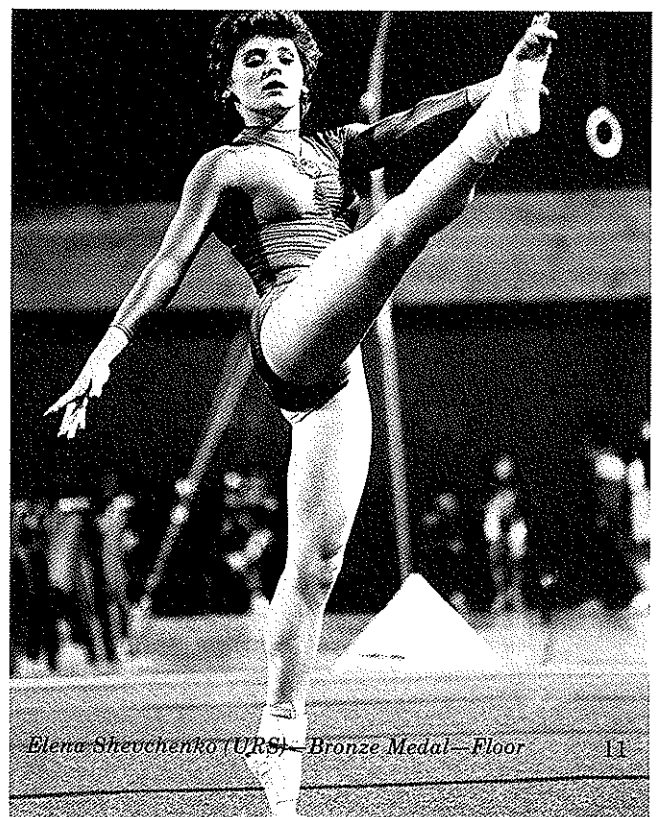
with a triple turn. Monique performed steadily once again to score a 9.60. Floor was the apparatus of the evening. Australia was able to qualify one gymnast—Kylie Shadbolt into the final, who qualified in 4th place with three other gymnasts—Zhang (PRC), Kanuka (CAN) and Corvacci (CAN). Once again the "fresh start" rule applied to the qualifiers, and once again this proved to be in Australia's favour. Laschenova once again did a superbly artistic exercise, to score 9.8, the result of a missing C being replaced by a D, resulting in a loss of bonus. Kylie performed a spell binding exercise to equal Natalia's score. Elena Shevchenko's exercise, incorporating many of the trade mark moves from her old "Pink Panther" exercise earned her a 9.675 and 3rd place. **Kylie had won gold!**

Happy tears of joy, together with a thousand streamers from the audience as the Aussie flag was raised, proved to be a fitting end to this very successful competition.

Peter Hassan



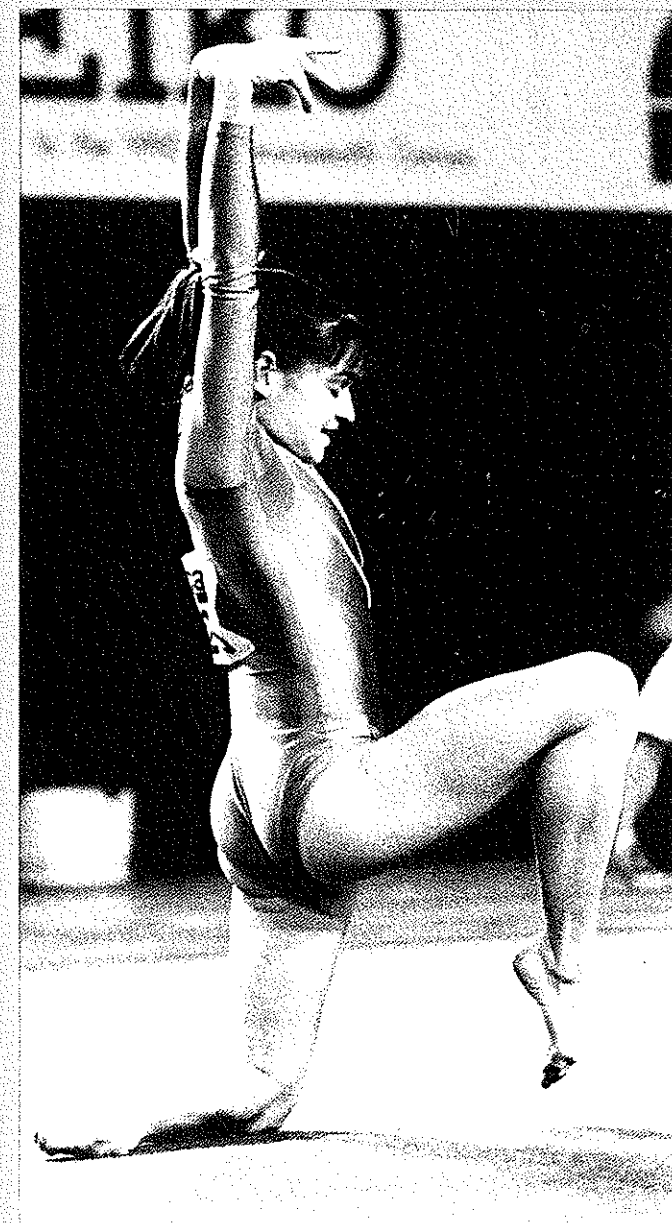
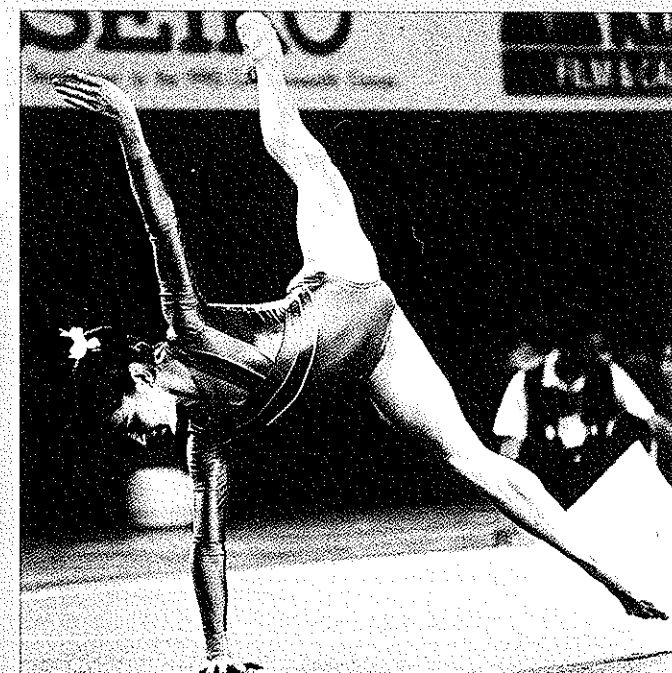
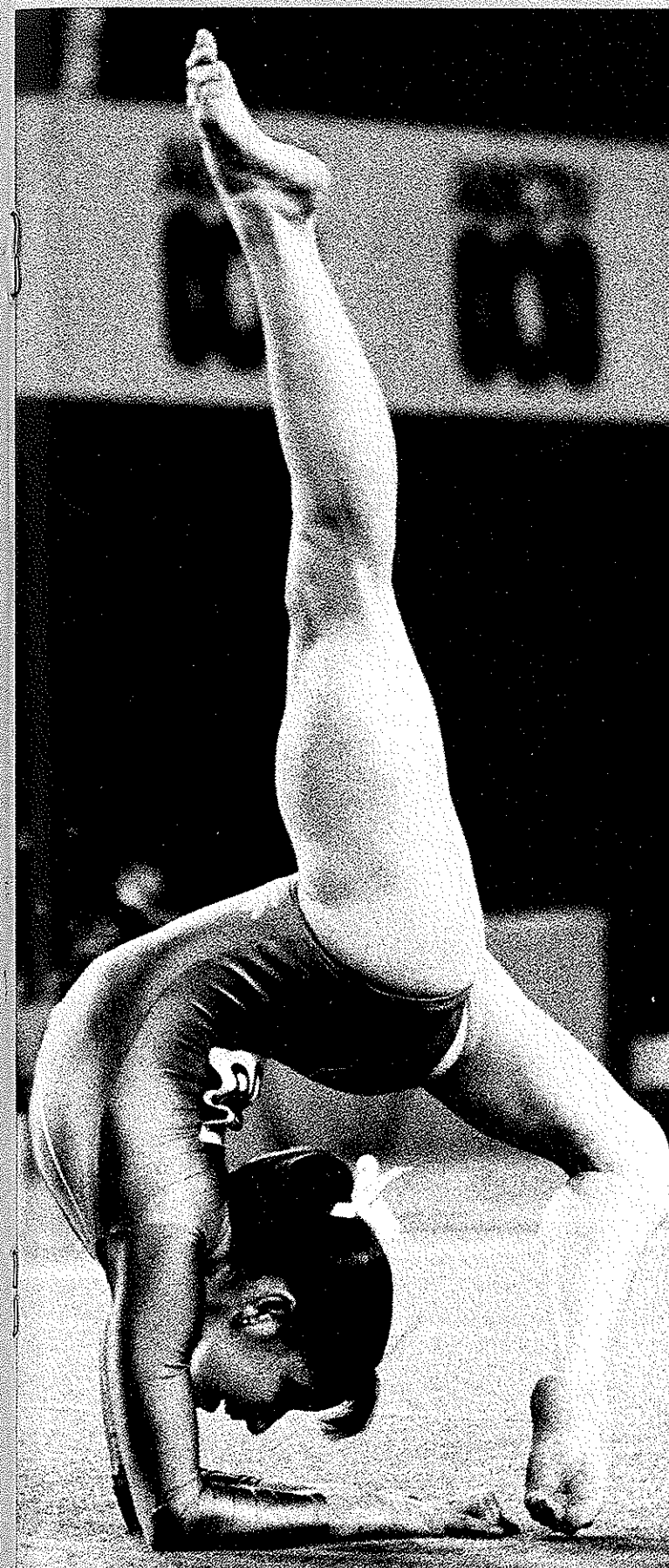
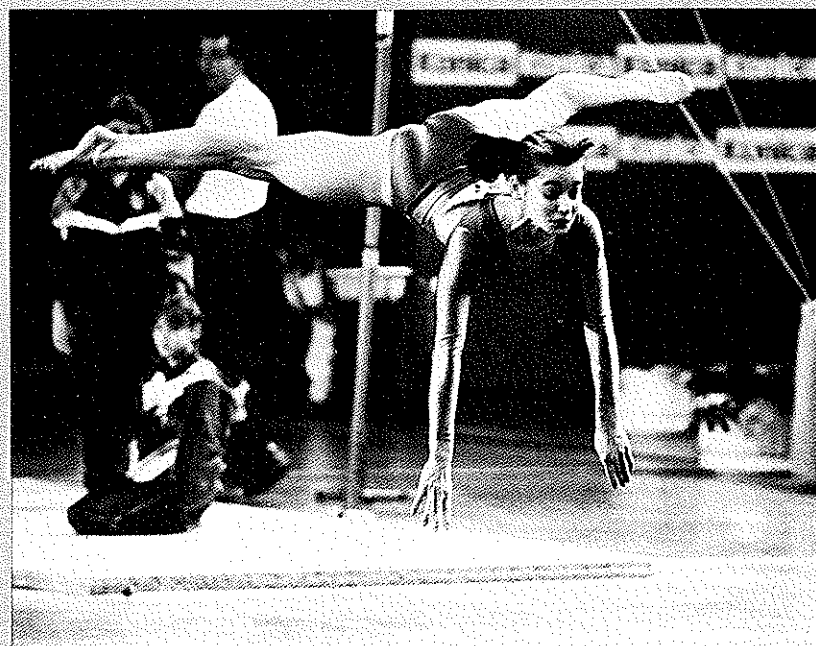
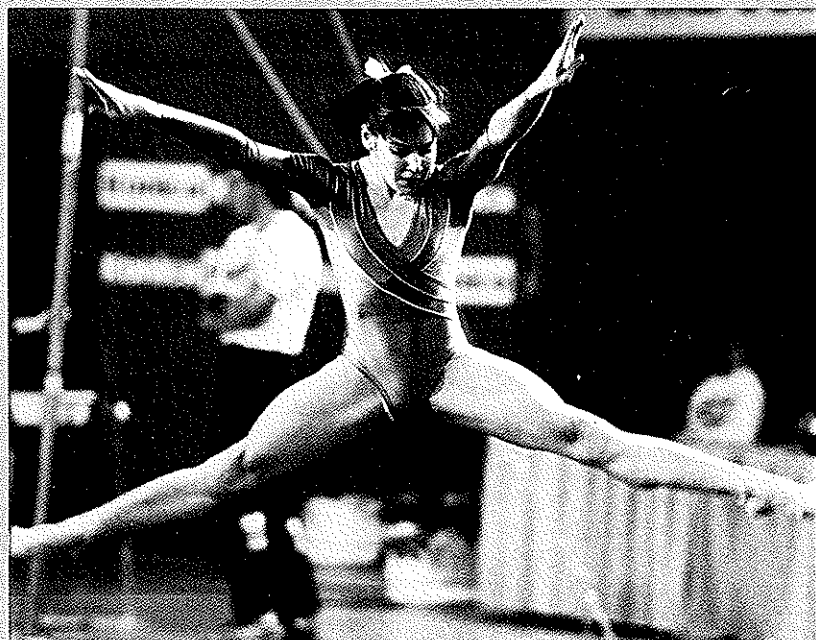
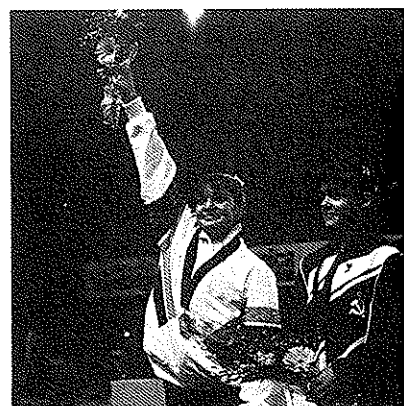
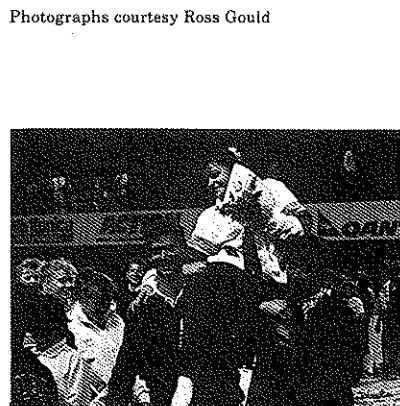
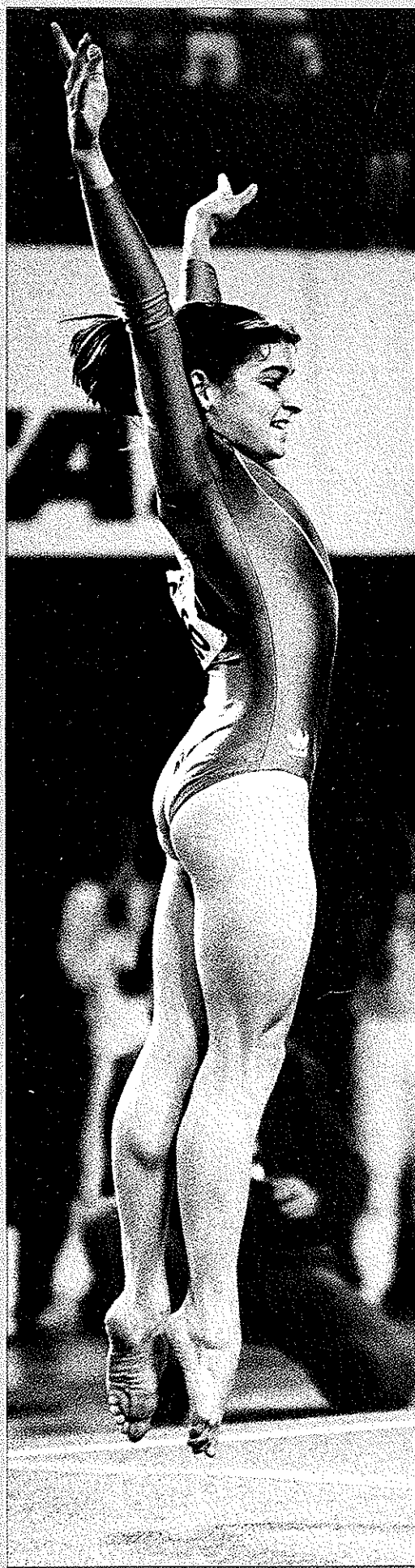
Natalia Laschenova (URS)—Medal—Vault



Elena Shevchenko (URS)—Bronze Medal—Floor

KYLIE'S GOLDEN MOMENT

Photographs courtesy Ross Gould



Konica Grand Prix 1989

A Judge's Perspective of the Women's Competition

by Kim Morris

What a great night for Australia! History was made with Australia's first gold medal ever in an International gymnastics competition. Moreover the competition included some of the world's best—Olympic team members from USSR, Bulgaria, Canada and China. The gold medal was won by **Kylie Shadbolt** for her equal 1st place on floor with Natalia Laschenova from the Soviet Union. Congratulations to Kylie and all the Australian gymnasts for fine performances throughout the competition.



Photograph courtesy of Sun Newspapers Pty Ltd.

Seventeen judges were assigned to the competition—10 from Australia and seven from the various visiting countries. The overseas judges acted as head judges on three out of four apparatus each day.

We were very well looked after and very appreciative of the opportunity to be part of such an exciting event.

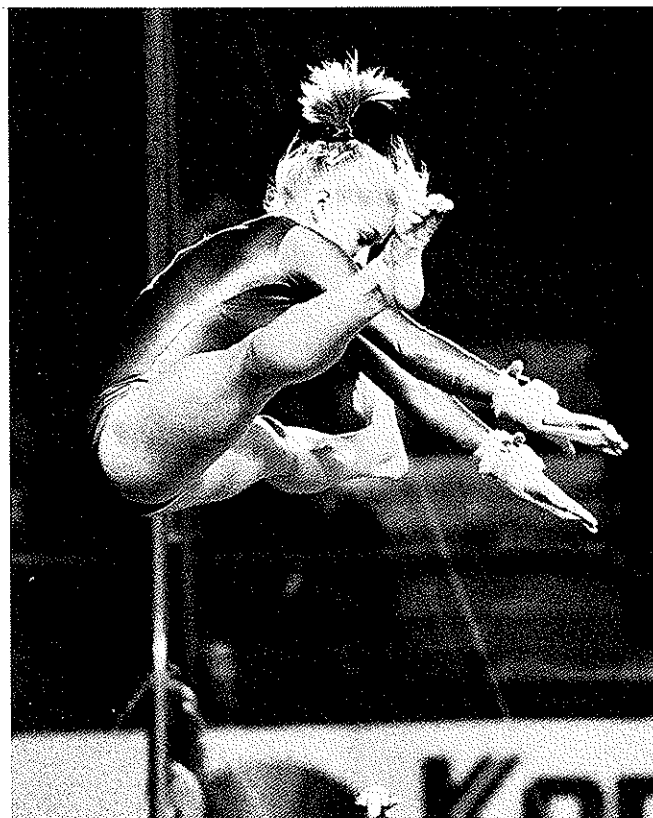
The event has been an eye opener in many respects. Australia presented a truly team effort. Coaches, judges and organisers all worked together to see Australian gymnasts show Australia and the world that they are now up there with the best.

I was very appreciative as were other judges of the opportunity to be present in Brisbane for a couple of days training prior to the competition. It is always an advantage to arrive at the event in plenty of time to watch training and become part of the team. For it is during that time one gets into the judging mode and begins to have a feeling for the comparative standard. The notion that the Australian product is not usually as good as the foreign product can be discounted and the Judges can go into the competition with more confidence.

In the overall competition **Monique Allen** gained 5th place and **Kylie Shadbolt** 6th place. Natalia Laschenova from the Soviet Union was the clear winner of the event.

Monique gained a place in the vault finals. Her 9.625 gained her Australia's first bronze medal for the Women's event. Laschenova was the gold medalist (9.925).

It was unfortunate that rules permit only two gymnasts per country from entering finals, for on bars **Clare Scotney** scored 9.675, **Kylie Shadbolt** 9.70, **Trudi Nurse** 9.80 and **Monique Allen** 9.825. The finals results showed Australia's strength on this apparatus. Yang Bo from China won the event with 9.975, Laschenova scored 9.80 and Monique



Trudi Nurse (AUS)—4th Uneven Bars

Photograph courtesy Ross Gould

won a bronze medal with 9.75. The Soviet coach was very impressed and commented to the Australian coaches that he felt Monique was just as good as the Soviet gymnast! Trudi was only 0.025 behind Monique for 4th place. Our technique in the swings and our quality of release moves is up there. Our girls also have competitive difficulty for finals. For the 9.90 and 10.00 scores we need only back to back difficulty or original combinations of the difficult moves.

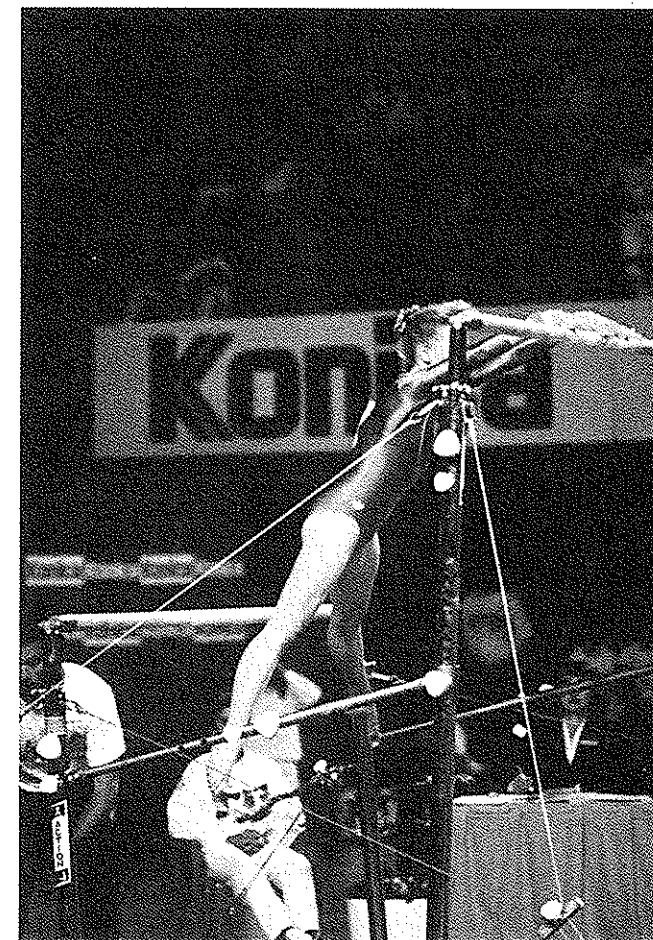
Monique and Kylie both gained places in beam finals. Monique scored 9.60 for a flawless routine apart from a pause and a step in the double back dismount. Kylie performed in her first finals in an international competition, but was unfortunate to fall in her layout and then again immediately in her flic flac following. The final results for beam were Yang Bo 9.90, Xia 9.80 and Laschenova 9.75.

Kylie put beam behind her and set about preparing for a possible medal on floor. She had come into the finals with 9.60 and 3rd equal highest score in 1B, and knowing she could improve on this. She had a good chance of being a medal winner, should all go well. She competed early in the rotation, stuck her double layout/pike and with a beaming expression sold the rest of her routine to the hometown audience and judges. She received minor deductions on her landings of her double backs in the 2nd and last rows and was awarded 9.80. A couple of gymnasts who were in contention for medals followed but had falls in their routines. Laschenova performed her beautifully choreographed routine to Peer Gynt—"In The Hall Of The Mountain King" what a version! Her starting value was only 9.90 and her score of 9.80 placed her in the lead with Kylie. Shevshenko, renowned for her mature and stylish presentation of stunning choreography, performed a good routine with high level of difficulty but showed legs apart in her double saltos and stepped outside the floor area. She received 9.675 and the bronze medal. What a way for the competition to finish! The crowd went wild in the presentation while Kylie and Laschenova shared the limelight for several minutes before the bronze medal could be presented.

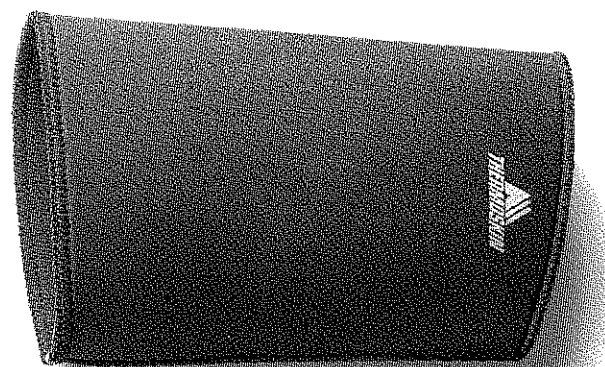
Never before in International competition with so many Australian judges has the responsibility of judging been so highlighted. Medal chances on every event. Are we brave enough to recognise our own worth against such famous names? We must ensure that we are as prepared and as in tune as our gymnasts and coaches. This is not possible via video or the code. It's not even good enough any more to ensure we are in the gym. We have to go where the action is as often as possible. The coaches all welcome the Aussie judges as part of the team. We are now recognised as an essential part of any Australian team and teams can't be completely successful by coming together only at the last minute. The doors are always open for us.



Photograph courtesy of Sun Newspapers Pty Ltd.



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AUSTRALIAN WOMEN WIN FIRST GOLD

Australia extended a warm welcome via the City of Brisbane to another International event. Host City of the 1982 Commonwealth Games and the 1988 World Expo, Brisbane was well attuned to again embrace International visitors, this time 26 men, 29 women and 12 rhythmic gymnasts from ten Nations.

For Brisbane and for Australia many firsts were to occur to thrill not only the spectators but also the rest of Australia via television.

Australian audiences are now familiar with having all three competitive gymnastic disciplines in the same program. The response of the Nations who visited Australia was to provide some of their top International gymnasts. These included members of the USSR Gold Medal Team from Seoul, Laschenova and Shevchenko; from the German Democratic Republic, Sylvio Kroll and Sven Tippelt and from Canada Janine Rankin and Monica Covacci. Many of the competitors had competed in the prestigious European and North American Competitions earlier in the year and this was to be their final competition prior to the World Championships.

Highlights of the competition included the spectacular Horizontal Bar routine from Dimitri Vorobiev of the Soviet Union with his releases, one the same as fellow Soviet Marinich, who prepares for a reverse hecht but rather than going over the bar backwards he shoots into a front sault and catches the bar in an undergrip on the same side as entry.

Perhaps the greatest thrill for Australia was when **Kylie Shadbolt** in front of her home town of Brisbane tied to win Australia's first women's Gold Medal at an International Event. Having a disastrous beam final Kylie managed to pull herself together with words of encouragement from her coach Ju Ping Tian and give one of her best floor performances to date. Receiving a 9.80 for her floor which included a double lay-out, she tied with Lashanova of the Soviet Union.

Consistent in her performance, 1988 Seoul Olympic representative, **Monique Allen** took two Bronze Medals, one in Vault and one on the Uneven Bars and finished 5th in the All Around. On the men's side for Australia, **Ken Meredith** competing in only five apparatus managed to take a Bronze Medal on the Rings and finished in three other finals.

The overall winners were spread among three Nations in the men with Sylvio Kroll (GDR) in front of Misutin (URS) by 0.25 and finishing with the Bronze was Bo of China. In a world dominated by Soviet gymnasts, the men's competition was a

surprise because the placings were shared. This was the first visit of the GDR to Australia and with their consistent performances the audiences hope it will not be the last.

In the Men's Finals, the Gold Medals were shared among four Nations, this time the Soviets dominated. Schenochkin took Gold on Rings and Vorobiev took Gold on Parallel Bars and High Bar. The other three Gold were Curtis Hibbert, Canada on Vault, Kroll (GDR) on Pommels and Quiang (CHN) on Floor. The Men's Competition was interesting as there was no clear domination but a good spread of high quality gymnastics.

In the women, the Soviets dominated with Laschenova taking the Gold, 0.65 ahead of team mate Elena Shevchenko. With the Bronze was Yang Bo of China.

In both the men's and women's events the Chinese were looking very promising.

The women's competition was dominated by the Soviets and the Chinese with the Australian women putting in a strong performance finishing in 5th place, **Monique Allen** and 6th place, **Kylie Shadbolt**, All Around.

Finals were particularly exciting as it was often the falls that determined the placings. This was especially so on Bars. Previous experience was also a determining factor as demonstrated by Laschenova.

In the Finals, the Soviets Laschenova and Abdrashitova took the Vault Gold and Silver while **Monique Allen** (AUS) took the Bronze. The Gold on Bars went to Yang Bo of China with Laschenova (URS) taking the Silver and **Monique Allen** of Australia taking her second Bronze. China proved their unbelievable strength on Beam with Yang Bo finishing with the Gold and a 9.90. Her routine was without a flaw. Her team mate Zhang Xia finished with the Silver and Laschenova the Bronze. Sharing the Gold were **Kylie Shadbolt** (AUS) and Laschenova on Floor with a score of 9.80, Shevchenko took the Bronze.

In rhythmic, Larissa Mdevedeva (URS) was in a class by herself. Of the five Gold Medals, she took four missing only the ribbon. Her style and performance were outstanding. Larissa captured not only the hearts of the spectators but also the eye of many photographers.

The promoter, Michael Browning and the host Association, Queensland were delighted with the standard of competition. The competitors reciprocated with their congratulations on the high standard of organisation.

by Peggy Browne

INTERVIEW

Part 1 of the interview with Charles Lake, US #1 Gymnast, was featured in the last issue of our magazine. In this we mentioned Charles was in Australia to release his book. It has been pointed out since that it was not his own book he was promoting, but in fact a book called *Dianetics, the Modern Science of Mental Health*, by L. Ron Hubbard. This book is published by N.E. Publications Australia Pty. Ltd., who sponsored Charles on this Australian Tour.

Charles has used the techniques outlined in this bestseller in his training and was interviewed by many newspapers and radio stations on the subject of mental stress in sport. This interview with *The Australian Gymnast* was one of the most extensive he gave and we were privileged to have this interview. Part 2 follows.

A.G. It is obvious that blacks have a natural athletic propensity, you only have to look at the line up of athletes when US teams compete anywhere in major championships. Why aren't there more blacks in gymnastics?

C.L. Well in America, I can only speak for America of course, I assume it's because of the lack of role models. I am sure that is the case because I clearly had talent, I guess, I taught myself a number of skills that you would normally spend a year or more developing if you start in the sport. Like I could do a round off flip flop back. I taught myself that, before I even walked into the gym. I have noticed a lot of blacks are excellent tumblers, I don't know where they get it, and their technique isn't that bad really. **There is a certain fearlessness about these guys, I mean they do this on concrete.** That is what I did in the playground. But because there had been no blacks in gymnastics then it was not the natural thing for my parents to think about, hey, he should go to the Olympics. So I actually had to make the decision on my own to do so and they said alright, fine. When the coach said I had talent and they saw the benefits, the first being perhaps a college scholarship, which was an important thing and as I continued it became more obvious that I wasn't just kidding about wanting to go to the Olympics. I could really make that occur and then they really started backing me on this. I think now that if I continue

what I am doing, and I can really try to give something back to the sport now. We just did this "Say no to Drugs" type thing, combined with gymnastics as an alternative, at a boys home. These guys are wards of the state, most of them minors and blacks. I mean it's not something you call yourself, you don't call yourself a role model, but if other kids see me as a "role model", then I will certainly do some work in that area.

A.G. Can western countries like Australia learn some lessons from the US in gymnastics?

C.L. I am very impressed with the Australians here, I don't see anything so far off here than I have seen anywhere else. I mean the level here is certainly much higher than I have ever seen coming from Australia. I assume that Australia is doing fine, if they had better backing or if you guys had better backing from your government and from private corporate sponsors, then certainly you would be able to get up to a much higher level. I was told how expensive it is to travel abroad. I can't figure out how you guys can have such beautiful facilities like this (AIS), and the State Sports Centre (NSW) and yet you can't get any funding to travel.

A.G. Well this is the first step, facilities, and we are looking pretty good in terms of facilities, but the next step as you say is travel and also to have more good coaches in the facilities, that would probably be the two things.

C.L. I think more of these guys who are doing real well in the sport could turn around and become coaches. They have the experience first hand in the World International scene and the would probably be, you know, Australia's own, rather than having to import.

A.G. What is needed to topple the awesome strength of the Eastern bloc countries. Can we in the West ever do that?

C.L. Certainly, my coach and I, we don't think the Soviets are unbeatable. They don't have more talent than you guys do, they don't have more talent than we do in America. They have maximised their strengths and minimised their weaknesses and that is about all they have done. They do have some weaknesses believe it or not.

My coach has a much broader view of gymnastics history than I do and I was very surprised to hear that a lot of moves which are very common place now were originated by Americans. And of course the Thomas Flair which has been highly popularised by the Soviets was an American innovation. I think that for the same reason America is the entertainment capital of the world. That creative spark which exists in America is probably one of our greatest strengths. And I think countries like Australia and America can add much more charisma and performance to the sport because the Soviets are aesthetically very, very beautiful and technically extremely expert but that is about it. You can appreciate their gymnastics but there is no life there you know. And I think what people have appreciated about say Mitch Gaylord, is the excitement he brings to the sport.

A.G. An interesting sideline to your visit is that a protege of yours, Cruise Feno is with you. I believe you have some interesting aspirations for him.

C.L. Well certainly he has some talent in the sport and our intentions are to get him up to world class standard as quickly as possible. He is not afraid to do anything and he has an ability to assess the moves and understand them conceptually, then all he has to do is demonstrate that understanding and that is the simplicity of gymnastics. If Cruise makes the team in '92 it will be the first time a coach/gymnast team will make the same Olympic team, which should generate a little bit of interest and that will be fun.

A.G. Good to meet you. Good luck.

C.L. You too. Thank you very much.

GYMNASTICS

by Julia Clapsis, (10), Mosman Pk, W.A. *

Have you ever sat glued to your TV set and watched the famous gymnasts like Mary-Lou Retton and Nadia Comaneci perform in the Olympics? Well, my favourite sport is gymnastics. I started getting interested in gymnastics movements, like handstands, when I was five. My mum took me to the Claremont Police and Citizens Youth Club to see what gym was like. I liked it and became a member of the club straight away. That was five years ago!

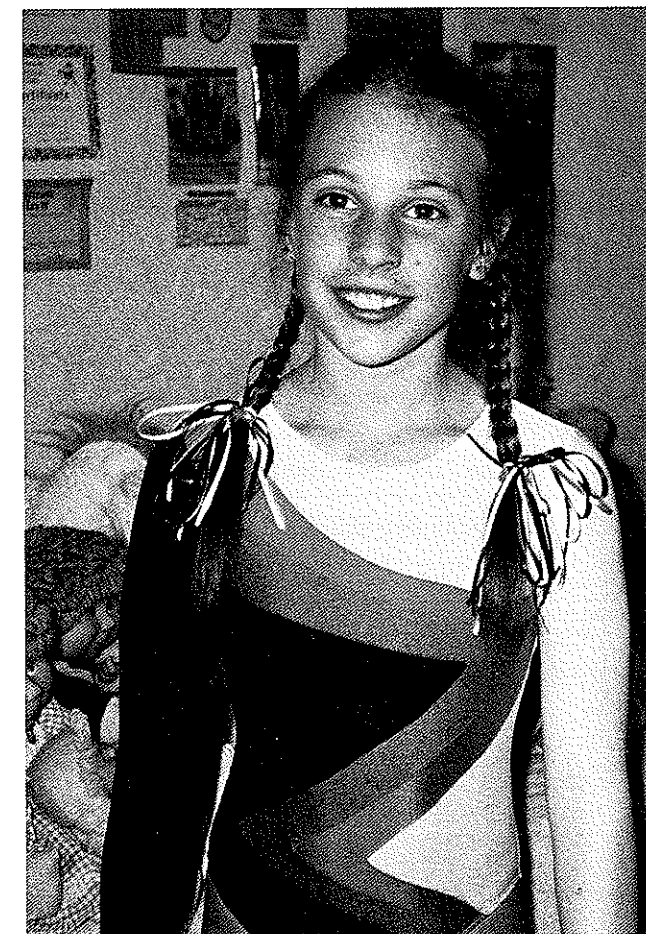
Nanna bought me some leotards and my coach, Mrs. Alida Scott, put me into the beginners class. When I could do all the movements in that level I was given my badge and promoted to the next level. Testing for badges up to level three is done by the coach but for level four and upwards, badges must be achieved by entering and passing competitions. In competitions you are judged as you perform a routine on each of the four apparatus—bars, beam, floor and vault.

Gymnastics helps develop balance, endurance, strength and flexibility. However this does not just happen, you have to work hard at it by training properly. We warm up for approximately 10 minutes before we do our circuit of strength exercises such as chin ups, dips and leg raises. Flexibility work such as splits, bendbacks and presses follow. After we finish all these we do apparatus work.

Our club competes in Federation of Police and Citizens Youth Club competitions as well as the West Australian Gymnastics Association (WAGA) State Competitions.

In the Federation level six U/12 competition I came fourth and second. In the level six U/10 WAGA State Championship competition I came third overall, plus I also won a silver medal on beam and a bronze one on bars. I have won eight medals altogether plus four trophies. I am now working on level seven movements. I like doing gym and train three times a week.

In April this year I auditioned for the WAGA Display Team and was so happy when I was selected. My coach is Mrs. Connie Burch and we train every Monday from 6-7.30 pm at Len Fletcher Sports Pavillion.



Julia Clapsis

I enjoy this display work. We have performed at several different functions and venues, including the trots; the HBG Expo at the Superdrome; the Australian National Gymnastics Championships and a Wildcats Basketball game at the Superdrome. Arrangements for these displays are organised by the WAGA Promotions Officer, Mrs. Frances Giles.

I really enjoy gymnastics and when I get older I would like to coach younger children as well as represent my country at the Olympic Games.

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Travelodge

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OUR OFFICIAL HOTEL

RESULTS

KONICA GRAND PRIX

MEN'S INDIVIDUAL ALL-AROUND

Name	Cty	Floor	Pommel	Rings	Vault	P. Bars	H. Bar	Total	Place
S. Kroll	GDR	9.450	9.700	9.650	9.200	9.600	9.700	57.300	1
G. Misyutin	URS	9.400	9.350	9.350	9.750	9.500	9.700	57.050	2
Y. Bo	CHN	9.600	9.500	9.700	9.150	9.450	9.550	56.950	3
N. Quiang	CHN	9.600	9.550	9.250	9.400	9.750	9.350	56.800	4
V. Schepochkin	URS	9.200	9.650	9.800	9.200	9.200	9.600	56.650	5
C. Hibbert	CAN	8.800	9.450	9.500	9.400	9.600	9.700	56.450	6
D. Vorobiev	URS	9.000	9.650	9.300	9.000	9.450	9.800	56.200	7
S. Tippelt	GDR	9.400	9.400	9.500	8.850	9.300	9.600	56.050	8
S. Gotchev	BUL	9.400	9.400	9.050	9.100	9.400	9.650	56.000	9
J. Milbradt	GDR	9.200	9.600	9.250	9.400	9.400	8.900	55.750	10
C. Guangyan	CHN	9.100	9.550	9.400	8.800	9.500	9.350	55.700	11
A. Viligiardi	ITA	9.350	9.200	9.250	9.200	9.550	8.900	55.450	12
I. Shelly	GBR	9.200	8.900	9.100	9.450	9.300	9.350	55.300	13
G. Sala	ITA	8.800	9.550	9.450	8.900	8.700	9.500	55.000	=14
D. Borsella	ITA	9.100	9.200	9.250	8.950	9.000	9.500	55.000	=14
G. Carlyon	AUS	9.400	9.300	8.900	9.250	8.500	9.600	54.950	16
M. Penev	BUL	9.300	9.250	9.500	8.800	9.150	8.800	54.800	17
W. Birnbaum	AUS	9.200	8.800	9.500	8.950	9.000	9.100	54.550	18
A. Morris	GBR	9.300	9.400	9.200	8.850	8.700	8.950	54.400	19
J. May	GBR	9.300	8.500	9.150	9.300	8.850	9.100	54.200	20
Latendresse	CAN	8.800	8.900	9.300	8.500	9.150	9.400	54.050	21
A. Nolet	CAN	9.200	9.000	8.800	9.100	8.800	9.100	54.000	22
M. Memmsen	AUS	8.700	9.100	8.500	8.900	8.900	9.500	53.600	23
I. Alexandrov	BUL	9.000	9.500	8.550	8.500	8.750	9.250	53.550	24
P. Hogan	AUS	9.400	7.950	8.600	8.900	9.300	9.350	53.500	25
K. Meredith	AUS	0.000	9.550	9.600	9.300	9.500	8.600	46.550	26

WOMEN'S INDIVIDUAL ALL-AROUND

Name	Cty	Vault	Bars	Beam	Floor	Total	Place
N. Laschenova	URS	9.950	9.850	9.850	9.850	39.500	1
E. Shevchenko	URS	9.850	9.550	9.675	9.775	38.850	2
B. Yang	CHN	9.800	9.825	9.900	9.225	38.750	3
E. Abdrashitova	URS	9.900	9.600	9.250	9.750	38.500	4
M. Allen	AUS	9.675	9.825	9.700	9.050	38.250	5
K. Shadbolt	QLD	9.200	9.700	9.600	9.600	38.200	6
F. Luo	CHN	9.825	9.625	9.225	9.475	38.150	7
M. Covacci	CAN	9.800	9.575	9.075	9.600	38.050	8
J. Rankin	CAN	9.700	9.500	9.050	9.550	37.800	9
D. Vodenicharova	BUL	9.300	9.400	9.600	9.450	37.750	10
X. Zhang	CHN	9.025	9.300	9.775	9.600	37.700	11
E. Okino	USA	9.275	9.400	9.625	9.375	37.675	12
J. Clack	AUS	9.600	9.525	9.400	8.950	37.475	13
T. Nurse	AUS	9.600	9.800	8.775	9.225	37.400	15
S. Mercer	GBR	9.500	8.900	9.500	9.325	37.225	16
D. Dawes	USA	9.450	9.200	9.250	9.125	37.025	16
G. Peeva	BUL	8.925	9.500	9.550	8.975	36.950	17
S. Celotto	ITA	9.475	9.300	9.000	9.150	36.925	18
S. Arosio	ITA	9.500	9.225	8.900	9.200	36.825	19
L. Law	GBR	9.400	9.200	8.950	9.075	36.625	20
K. Kanuka	CAN	9.650	8.950	8.400	9.600	36.600	21
S. Hargreaves	AUS	9.400	9.300	9.100	8.775	36.575	=22
J. Reardon	USA	9.625	8.950	9.000	9.000	36.575	=22
L. Grayson	GBR	9.150	9.325	8.500	9.400	36.375	24
C. Scotney	AUS	8.550	9.825	8.700	9.175	36.050	25
N. Jenkins	NZL	9.550	9.250	8.750	8.425	35.975	26
K. Strong	NZL	9.100	8.800	8.650	9.025	35.575	27
C. O'Loughlin	NZL	9.125	8.875	8.475	8.950	35.425	28
S. Guileva	BUL	9.125	9.450	7.825	0.000	26.400	29

R.S.G. INDIVIDUAL ALL-AROUND

Name	Cty	Rope	Hoop	Ball	Ribbon	Total	Place
L. Medvedeva	URS	9.450	9.400	9.500	9.250	37.600	1
A. Loukanova	BUL	9.350	9.300	9.250	9.350	37.250	2
Q. Pang	CHN	9.300	9.300	9.100	9.250	36.950	3
Q. Zhou	CHN	8.800	8.900	9.200	9.200	36.100	4
M. Ferretti	ITA	8.800	8.950	9.200	9.050	36.000	5
S. Ferretti	ITA	8.950	8.900	9.100	8.950	35.900	6
J. Hopkins	CAN	9.050	9.050	9.000	8.650	35.750	7
J. Hamm	CAN	8.850	8.800	9.050	8.800	35.500	8
A. Douglas	AUS	8.900	8.750	8.850	8.700	32.200	9
H. Obremski	AUS	8.500	8.700	8.600	8.450	34.250	10
P. Friedland	USA	8.500	8.500	8.800	8.400	34.200	11
N. Hewitt-Cout	USA	8.750	8.450	8.650	8.050	33.900	12
S. Wilda	AUS	8.750	7.300	8.750	8.650	33.450	13

MEN'S APPARATUS FINALS

Name	Cty	Total	Place
FLOOR			
N. Quiang	CHN	9.700	1
Y. Bo	CHN	9.650	2
G. Misyutin	URS	9.500	3
S. Kroll	GDR	9.250	4
G. Carlyon	AUS	9.100	5
P. Hogan	AUS	8.950	=6
S. Gotchev	BUL	8.950	=6
S. Tippelt	GDR	8.900	8
POMMEL HORSE			
S. Kroll	GDR	9.800	1
D. Vorobiev	URS	9.750	2
V. Schepochkin	URS	9.700	3
J. Milbradt	GDR	9.650	4
G. Sala	ITA	9.500	5
K. Meredith	AUS	9.450	6
N. Quiang	CHN	9.200	7
C. Guangyan	CHN	8.950	8
RINGS			
V. Schepochkin	URS	9.875	1
Y. Bo	CHN	9.800	2
K. Meredith	AUS	9.750	=3
S. Tippelt	GDR	9.750	=3
S. Kroll	GDR	9.500	=5
G. Sala	ITA	9.500	=5
M. Penev	BUL	9.400	7
W. Birnbaum	AUS	9.350	8
VAULT			
C. Hibbert	CAN	9.400	1
J. May	GBR	9.325	=2
J. Milbradt	GDR	9.325	=2
G. Misyutin	URS	9.300	4
A. Viligiardi	ITA	9.225	5
I. Shelly	GBR	9.125	6
N. Quiang	CHN	9.100	7
K. Meredith	AUS	8.800	8
PARALLEL BARS			
D. Vorobiev	URS	9.650	1
C. Hibbert	CAN	9.600	=2
A. Villagiardi	ITA	9.600	=2
N. Quiang	CHN	9.350	4
K. Meredith	AUS	9.150	5
C. Guangyan	CHN	9.100	6
S. Kroll	GDR	8.950	7
G. Misyutin	URS	8.900	8
HORIZONTAL BAR			
D. Vorobiev	URS	9.950	1
C. Hibbert	CAN	9.900	2
S. Tippelt	GDR	9.875	3
S. Kroll	GDR	9.825	4
Y. Bo	CHN	9.625	5
S. Gotchev	BUL	9.450	6
G. Carlyon	AUS	9.100	=7
G. Misyutin	URS	9.100	=7

APPARATUS FINALS

Name	Cty	Total	Place
VAULT			
N. Laschenova	URS	9.925	1
E. Abdrashitova	URS	9.762	2
M. Allen	AUS	9.625	3
J. Reardon	USA	9.587	=4
Yang Bo	CHN	9.587	=4
J. Rankin	CAN	9.587	=4
Luo Feng	CHN	9.575	7
M. Covacci	CAN	9.512	8
UNEVEN BARS			
Yang Bo	CHN	9.925	1
N. Laschenova	URS	9.800	2
M. Allen	AUS	9.750	3
T. Nurse	AUS	9.725	4
E. Abdrashitova	URS	9.675	5
J. Rankin	CAN	9.650	6
Luo Feng	CHN	8.100	7
M. Covacci	CAN	8.025	8

APPARATUS FINALS

Name	Cty	Total	Place
ROPE			
L. Medvedeva	URS	9.500	1
A. Loukanova	BUL	9.350	2
Q. Pang	CHN	9.300	3
Q. Zhou	CHN	9.150	4
J. Hopkins	CAN	8.900	5
S. Ferretti	ITA	9.000	6
J. Hamm	CAN	9.050	7
A. Douglas	AUS	8.800	8
HOOP			
L. Medvedeva	URS	9.650	1
Q. Pang	CHN	9.450	2
A. Loukanova	BUL	9.300	3
S. Ferretti	ITA	9.200	4
Q. Zhou	CHN	9.150	5
M. Ferretti	ITA	9.100	6
J. Hamm	CAN	9.050	7
J. Hopkins	CAN	9.000	8

Name	Cty	Total	Place
BALL			
L. Medvedeva	URS	9.550	1
A. Loukanova	BUL	9.450	2
J. Hamm	CAN	9.200	=3
J. Hopkins	CAN	9.200	=3
Q. Pang	CHN	9.200	=3
Q. Zhou	CHN	9.150	=6
S. Ferretti	ITA	9.150	=6
M. Ferretti	ITA	8.550	8
RIBBON			
A. Loukanova	BUL	9.450	1
L. Medvedeva	URS	9.350	2
Q. Zhou	CHN	9.300	3
M. Ferretti	ITA	9.200	4
S. Ferretti	ITA	9.150	5
Q. Pang	CHN	9.050	=6
J. Hamm	CAN	9.050	=6
A. Douglas	AUS	8.900	8

RESULTS

1989 Junior Pacific Alliance Mens Gymnastics

INDIVIDUAL ALL-AROUND

Name	Team	Total	Place
Chang Feng-Chih	TPE	54.950	1
Kyle Asano	USA	54.400	2
Jorge Garcia	USA	54.300	3
Han Kwang-Ho	KOR	54.150	4
Chen Han-Ting	TPE	54.050	5
Brad Hayashi	USA	53.750	6
Goun Chy-Fen	TPE	53.150	7
Kim Sang-Yel	KOR	52.700	8
Hong Sung-Ho	KOR	52.400	9
Chong Chin-Su	KOR	52.350	10
Mark Vanwyk	CAN	52.050	11
Tong Nian-Kuan	TPE	51.900	12
Drew Durbin	USA	51.700	13
Kris Burley	CAN	51.550	14
Francisco Lopez	MEX	50.650	15
Frederic Bastien	CAN	50.600	16
Rob Doyle	CAN	50.050	17
Andres Sanchez	MEX	49.850	18
Raul Molina	GUA	49.450	19
Carlos Garcia	MEX	48.750	20
Leonardo Gonzalez	COL	47.850	21
Fernando Amaro	MEX	47.700	22
Chan Ka Sing	HKG	45.800	23
Wong Kim Fai	HKG	41.600	24

Team Results

Team	Total	Place
TPE	163.100	1
USA	162.550	2
KOR	160.500	3
CAN	156.300	4
MEX	150.900	5

NATIONAL LEVELS CHAMPIONSHIPS

LEVEL 10 TEAMS

Team	Total	Place
VIC	139.00	1
QLD	138.20	2
ACT	137.925	3
NSW	137.675	4

COMPETITION 2 — ALL AROUND

Name	State	Vault	Bars	Beam	Floor	Total Rd.2	Total Rd.1	Total O/ All	Place
K. McKay	ACT	8.850	8.900	8.750	9.150	35.650	35.075	70.725	1
K. Guthrie	VIC	8.800	8.850	8.900	8.775	35.325	34.875	70.200	2
J. Allen	NSW	8.600	9.200	8.750	8.300	34.850	35.300	70.150	3
A. Diedricks	ACT	8.800	9.000	9.000	8.400	35.200	34.250	69.450	4
S. Weis	VIC	8.700	8.550	8.750	8.900	34.900	34.450	69.350	5
D. Crozier	ACT	8.750	8.800	8.700	8.900	34.950	34.250	69.200	6
A. Fitzsimmons	QLD	9.150	8.400	8.350	8.950	34.850	34.325	69.175	7
S. Griffin	ACT	8.500	8.550	9.050	8.500	34.600	34.350	68.950	8
N. Swan	QLD	8.500	8.250	8.650	9.050	34.450	34.425	68.875	9
S. Simpson	VIC	8.800	8.500	8.250	8.900	34.450	34.250	68.700	10
M. George	WA	8.750	8.150	8.600	8.700	34.200	33.050	68.250	=11
N. Richardson	VIC	8.450	8.650	8.850	8.400	34.350	34.900	68.250	
M. Bradney	VIC	9.000	8.500	7.850	8.600	33.950	33.875	67.825	13
K. Rankin	QLD	8.800	8.250	7.500	8.750	33.300	34.200	67.500	14
M. Spicer	NSW	8.250	8.500	8.100	8.400	33.250	34.100	67.350	15
A. Mears	SA	8.850	8.550	8.350	8.400	34.150	32.900	67.050	16
K. Smallman	NSW	8.600	6.700	8.850	8.650	32.800	33.950	66.750	17
T. Butler	QLD	0.000	7.950	8.750	0.000	16.700	33.800	50.500	18

RESULTS

NATIONAL LEVELS CHAMPIONSHIPS 1989

LEVEL 8 TEAMS

Team	Total	Place
NSW	138.5	1
VIC	137.5	2
WA	132.9	3
QLD	132.625	4
ACT	131.3	5
SA	124.35	6
TAS	120.85	7

AUSTRALIA vs NEW ZEALAND

Team	Total	Place
AUS	140.200	1
NZ	135.850	2

COMPETITION 1 B

Name	Team	Vault	Bars	Beam	Floor	Total
K. McClung	NSW	8.100	8.650	7.650	8.400	32.800
M. Heron	ACT	8.300	8.650	7.350	8.450	32.750
J. Thake	NSW	8.600	7.600	7.800	8.700	32.700
R. Wilkes	QLD	8.550	8.300	6.700	9.000	32.550
C. Morton	ACT	8.300	8.500	7.600	8.100	32.500
S. Littlejohn	ACT	8.150	8.900	7.200	8.050	32.300
J. Salway	VIC	8.200	8.350	7.400	8.350	32.300
J. Keane	SA	7.950	8.450	7.450	8.400	32.250
C. Pratt	ACT	7.900	8.400	7.700	8.250	32.250
L. Cashmere	ACT	8.250	8.000	7.500	8.400	32.150
G. Preston	ACT	7.900	8.300	7.600	8.350	32.150
A. Watson	TAS	8.250	8.150	7.400	8.050	31.850
C. Hamilton	ACT	7.800	7.850	7.450	8.600	31.700
F. Sutherland	VIC	7.700	8.250	7.700	7.950	31.600
K. Hickman	NSW	7.700	7.700	7.150	8.800	31.350
K. Gibbons	SA	8.250	7.150	7.600	8.300	31.300
M. Cahalan	SA	7.900	8.150	6.900	7.700	30.650
W. Kerr	ACT	7.850	7.950	7.600	7.050	30.450
N. Saliba	WA	8.400	7.700	6.100	8.200	30.400
M. Towns	TAS	8.000	7.500	7.150	7.550	30.200
K. Graham	ACT	7.800	8.000	6.850	7.300	29.950
K. Crawley	WA	8.050	7.100	6.400	8.300	29.850
D. Donaldson	SA	8.100	6.900	6.700	6.900	29.600
J. McBain	WA	8.100	7.100	6.350	7.850	29.400
M. Wright	TAS	8.000	6.600	7.250	7.450	29.300
L. Kemp	TAS	8.100	6.800	5.850	8.000	28.750
V. Bennett	SA	8.150	7.200	6.100	7.200	28.650
C. McLean	TAS	7.300	6.800	6.100	7.750	27.950
M. O'Brien	VIC	7.950	7.800	7.500	0.000	23.250

INDIVIDUAL ALL-AROUND — COMPETITION 2

Name	Team	Vault	Bars	Beam	Floor	Total	Place
J. Dowse	NSW	8.250	9.300	8.200	8.800	34.550	1
N. Downes	NSW	8.550	9.200	8.750	8.900	35.400	2
R. Doyle	NSW	8.450	8.950	8.650	8.700	34.750	3
A. Walker	VIC	8.700	8.550	8.550	8.950	34.750	4
C. Hambrook	WA	8.800	8.900	8.200	8.800	34.700	5
K. Nichols	WA	8.300	9.000	8.350	9.000	34.650	6
E. Fettes	VIC	8.350	9.200	8.700	8.700	34.950	7
T. Ormond	VIC	8.500	8.900	8.300	8.600	34.300	8
K. Jackat	QLD	8.400	8.950	7.450	8.850	33.650	9
K. Ross	NSW	8.500	8.600	8.700	8.600	34.400	10
A. Cooke	NSW	8.100	8.850	7.850	8.600	33.400	11
N. Valks	NSW	8.450	8.650	8.850	8.900	34.850	12
K. Unsworth	VIC	8.300	8.400	8.350	8.650	33.700	13
S. Read	QLD	8.450	8.350	8.900	8.800	34.500	14
D. Trainer	WA	8.450	8.700	7.950	9.000	34.100	15
B. Latta	NSW	8.650	7.800	8.550	9.050	34.050	16
K. Hendry	QLD	8.700	8.400	7.550	8.825	33.475	17
R. Slow	VIC	8.750	8.300	8.800	8.800	34.650	18

APPARATUS FINALS

Name	Team	Total	Place
Vault			
M. Dawson	NZ	9.000	1
K. Taylor	NZ	8.750	=2
K. Jackat	QLD	8.750	=2
Bars			
J. Dowse	NSW	9.200	1
R. Doyle	NSW	9.000	2
N. Valks	NSW	8.950	3

Name	Team	Total	Place
Beam			
E. Fettes	VIC	8.900	1
K. Nichols	WA	8.850	2
K. Jackat	QLD	8.800	3
Floor			
T. Ormond	VIC	9.050	1
A. Cooke	NSW	9.025	2
C. Hambrook	WA	9.000	=3
R. Doyle	NSW	9.000	=3

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