

CHALK TALK

Oasis Pre-Season 11.11.06

Well once we found the Oasis in the desert our level 4 and 5 boys team got off to a great start of the season, but not without some entertaining moments.

Our boys were divided into three groups so it was hard for me to see every routine but I was able to see most everybody on a couple of events, and let me tell you I was impressed. Our first year level 4 boys looked liked veterans, well most of the time!

Introducing the new level 4 boy's team and their highlights:

AIDAN MARIN: I knew it was going to be a fun and interesting day and was not disappointed when Aidan Marin arrived sporting a very sleek competition ready haircut. Not more than 5 minutes later I lined the boys up and he had somehow managed to get a perfectly round chalk mark on his forehead...note: we had not even been near a chalk bucket yet! Aidan did manage to stay focused; he took 2nd on Pommel Horse and ended up 6th All Around. I found out later from Coach Derek that Aidan had a little turtle power going for him...as it turns out his mom, Amy, had bought him a turtle for good luck and he had it in a box in his gym bag throughout the meet. Yes, a real live turtle! Note to self for next year's Level 4 Parent Orientation Meeting: Be a little more specific about what is allowed on the competition floor and in the gym bags during meets.

MATTHEW ORMISTON: a.k.a. "The Muffin Man"

I went over to congratulate Matthew Ormiston after he completed his pommel horse routine only to find him speechless. Not because he was caught up in the scoring but because Coach Sean had told the boys that after they finished their pommel horse routine that they could get a snack out of their bag. Well Matthew took full advantage of this opportunity and had about 4 mini muffins shoved into his mouth before his score even came up, hence "the muffin man". After the meet I learned from Coach Sean that Matthew had a little muffin power during warm ups on vault and ran down the runway missing the board all together on his first attempt, whoops! Did not phase him in the competition though Matthew finished 3rd on Vault, P-Bars, 2nd on High Bar, 1st on Floor, Pommel Horse and 2nd in the All Around! Go Muffin Power!

RYAN "Dimples" ORMISTON: This one's definitely got the technique down for sticking. I caught his routine on the pommel horse and he hit the stick position in perfect form, dimples fully engaged...eyes straight forward...frozen in time for at least a full 10 seconds...definitely receiving credit for the stick bonus. Way to go Ryan! I also heard that Ryan did his floor routine with his clean white socks on...fuzzy side out. Just the way he likes it-expressing his own style. Will "IT" catch on? Only time will tell. He is such a trendsetter!

"Make It" JAKE HEDEBY: There a first time for everything and a meet is a great place for firsts. Jake made his pullover and back hip circle for the very first time on High Bar...way to go Jake! Pulled it off when it counts! Thank goodness for tongue power!

SPENCER “T-Bone” PATTERSON: You can take the dog out of the fight but you can't take fight out of the dog! Or something like that...anyway, kudos to Spencer who got bit by a pit bull 7 days before the meet and still put in a solid performance: 3rd PH, PB, 2nd on FX, V, HB and 3rd in the AA. Way to go T-Bone!

JACOB WAGNER: Jacob got off to a great first meet and finished up 2nd on Floor, 1st on Parallel Bars 3rd on Rings and 4th in the All Around. Just one thing, Jacob...when the trophies are passed out, the meet is over and it's time to go home! Obviously Jacob didn't get enough...he was still tumbling when I left the building. Hey Jacob, there will be another meet...I promise.

LUCAS SANDERS: If there were any first meet jitters, you wouldn't know it watching Lucas. Always cool, calm and focused, Lucas performed solid throughout the meet with a 49.40. Way to go!

TANNER “Team Trophy” PHIPPS: Not only did Tanner deliver a solid first meet performance with a 46.35, he pulled out his psychic abilities to select the winning number to take home the Team Trophy!

And the veteran Level 4's sure showed their stuff!

PETER DILLEY won the All Around for the 6-7 year olds. Way to go Dilley Bob!

HUNTER JACKSON won the All Around for the 8 year old division!

And in the 9 year old division, Southwest went **ADAM EMMERMAN** 1st, **ROSHAN TOOPAL** 2nd, and **NATHAN WICKLAND** 3rd! Wow!

That being said, they also won the First Place Team trophy! The only problem was trying to fit all of the guys on the awards stand! Way to go Level 4 Boys Team!

The Level 5 Guys did well considering several of them had just moved up this season.

Ages 6-9

RILEY GROSSMAN 2nd FX & HB, 3rd on SR, V, PB and AA

PETER WILSON 3rd on FX & PH 4th AA

Ages 10+

SEAN DICKE 2nd FX, PH, V, HB & 1st on SR and AA

AARON WICKUM 3rd on PH, 1st on FX & V, 2nd AA

MICHAEL ALBER 3rd on V, 1st HB & 5th AA

BEN DAVIS 3rd HB & 6th AA

Other Notable “Incidents”:

The Ring Room: Yes, they have a separate room that houses their ring tower and yes, libraries are nosier than it was in there during competition. So, when Ben starting laughing during his ring routine it was as if we were at the comedy club and the headliner had told his big ending joke. Still not sure what was so funny, but the Judge was certainly not in on the joke either and gave Ben the lowest ring score of the entire meet. Yes Ben, that is correct. You received the lowest ring score of the meet! 😊 Way to go, next time better wait ‘til you are finished with your gymnastic routine before you begin your comedy routine. I know that will be hard for you, but worth it in the long run.

Americas Got Talent! While we were waiting for awards they did a handstand contest won by Roshan and a headstand contest won by Hunter! Way to go guys!

But wait...the talent show continued with an invite of the parents to do a headstand contest! Did we have any brave souls out there...are you kidding? Now I know where these kids get it!

We had several parents give it a whirl including Aidan’s parents, Brian and Amy (great toe point by the way...look for video on You Tube...jk) and Ryan’s dad Chris, who barely got beat out by a coach/parent from Deer Valley YMCA (she was a real ringer). I mentioned to Chris afterwards that his head seemed noticeably flatter but he complained the most about his now bulging eyes! He did kind of look like Marty Feldman for a few days after the meet!

Special thanks to Drew and his dad Mike for making the long drive over to the Oasis to cheer on the guys! Although I am a little disappointed that Mike did not participate in headstand contest, better start practicing!

Well, congratulations to all of the boys and their supportive parents! The first meet is now under our belt without any major catastrophes! Ah, but Tucson is on the horizon and the boys will be sporting their full uniforms! Never a dull moment with that one! See you in the old pueblo!

Out of chalk for now!