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*Grand Traverse Bay*

# GYMNASTICS

Northern Michigan's Premiere Gymnastics Center

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## News Release

submitted by  
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# JAVIN, GALTONS WIN STATE!

## Grand Traverse Bay Gymnasts Win Ten State Championships

(Battle Creek, MI) – Seven Grand Traverse Bay Gymnastics competitors were among the 623 qualifying gymnasts from 48 Michigan gyms vying for state titles at the Kellogg Arena in Battle Creek this weekend. All seven qualified to move on to the five-state Region 5 championships next month. Five returned as event state champions, and three were awarded top honors as all-around state champions.

The meet opened with Level 7 gymnasts Norah Galton and Mattea Ball separating themselves from the rest of the competitors by claiming three of the four event championships. Galton won the first-place gold-medal on bars and floor, while Ball won beam, ahead of Galton's second-place beam routine by just .025. Ball finished top three on each of the four events, placing second on vault and claiming third-place bronze on bars and floor for an all-around score of 37.900, ninth best among all gymnasts at all levels and age divisions in the state.

Galton's all-around score was even higher, however – the highest in the state among all Level 7 competitors in all age divisions, earning her the all-around championship gold medal. While Galton and Ball performed neck and neck through each event, they finished more than half a point ahead of their nearest competitor, a large margin in a sport that measures scores to 1000<sup>th</sup> of a point.

Older sister Olyvia Galton also brought home both event- and coveted all-around state championships, winning bars and placing third on vault and beam to lead to an all-around Level 8 title. Her all-around score of 37.875 was top ten in the state among all competitors at all ages and levels, quite a feat when the state's top Level 10 gymnast from Olympia Academy in the Detroit area turned in an all-around score of 39.175.

"Region 5 is arguably one of the top regions in the country for gymnastics," commented coach Jennifer Van Deirse, "and Michigan is probably the most competitive state in the region, so to finish with ten state championships, three of them all-around championships, is really phenomenal."

At last year's Level 7-10 state meet, Grand Traverse Bay gymnasts racked up four gold-medal state championships, but no all-around championships.

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*"Where Grace Abounds"*

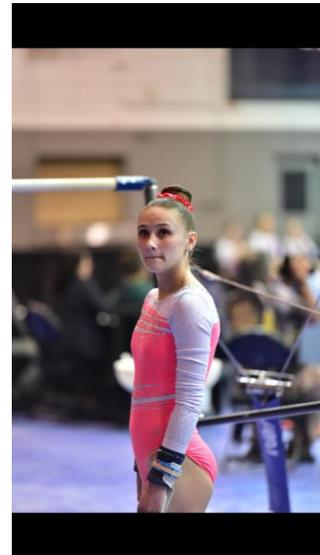
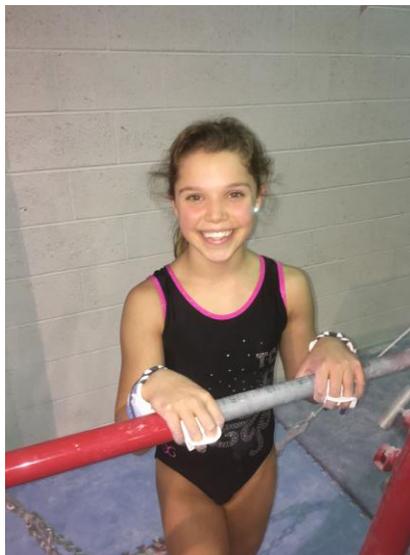
Seryna Javin won her Level 7 state all-around championship in the “Senior” age division, winning vault and bars event championships along the way. Javin’s three state championship gold medals matched Norah Galton’s record-breaking performance.

Dahlia Evans competed alongside teammate Olyvia Galton at Level 8, winning an event state championship on beam and placing 13<sup>th</sup> in the all-around scoring.

Also competing for Grand Traverse Bay Gymnastics in the Level 7 – 10 state meet were Annemarie Jenkins (Level 8, seventh-place bars) and Avery Wisniewski (Level 9, sixth-place vault), both exceeding the minimum all-around score of 35.000 required to qualify for the regional competition.

Level 9 Regional competitors will return to Battle Creek April 12 – 15, while Level 7/8 Regionals will be held April 20 – 22 in Akron, OH. Grand Traverse Bay Level 4 – 6 gymnasts will compete at their state meet April 27 – 29 in Saginaw.

For more information about Grand Traverse Bay Gymnastics, go to [www.gtbaygymnastics.com](http://www.gtbaygymnastics.com), or contact Betsy Van Deirse at 929-2869.



Above: 2018 all-around state champions Norah Galton, Seryna Javin, Olyvia Galton  
Below: 2018 state beam champions Mattea Ball and Dahlia Evans



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*“Where Grace Abounds”*