

McDonald's International MIXED PAIRS

Miller and Keswick Win

By Susan Polakoff

When Shannon Miller remembers her 15th birthday, it will bring special memories not because she received the usual birthday stuff like presents, a cake and a few cards from well-wishers. Instead, Miller is likely to recall her special day in Tallahassee, Florida, when she won the 1992 McDonald's International Mixed

Miller-Keswick pair competed to win a mixed pairs title. At the 1991 Swiss Cup, another pairs competition, the two won the gold medal.

"I'm very excited for Shannon," said coach Steve Nunno. "This is her fourth international competition, but the first she has won in the U.S. Shannon was paired with a great gymnast (Keswick). They both won in

think they had something to prove."

Miller had more to prove than the rights of the petite. A fall on floor at the McDonald's American Cup resulted in a third

Zmeskal and Shannon Miller." added Nunno.

Keswick competed on rings, parallel bars and scored a 9.9 on high bar. "High bar is a great event for me this year and I



Scott Keswick

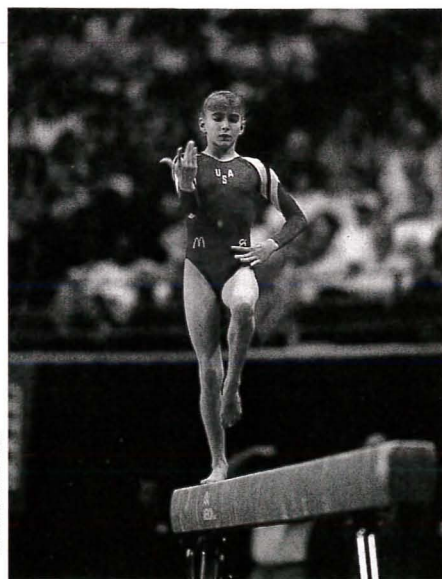
place finish—an upsetting result for Miller. (The U.S.'s Kim Zmeskal finished first.)

Miller managed to put her disappointments behind her by the time she arrived at the Tallahassee Civic Center. "Shannon really wanted to redeem herself on her birthday and she showed she is a fantastic competitor. I hope the people of the U.S. will now open their eyes to see they have two great champions, Kim

knew I could hit it. My triple (dismount) is going very well lately," Keswick said.

"Shannon is a great partner and I don't have to worry about her. I had a lot of fun, but I was more nervous for Mixed Pairs than I was for the McDonald's American Cup. I didn't do as well at the Cup and this provided extra motivation," Keswick said.

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Shannon Miller

Pairs with partner Scott Keswick.

Not only was the Mixed Pairs victory a great present, it was the second time the

Switzerland last year and because they are the two smallest gymnasts in the competition (Miller is 4-6, Keswick is 5-4) I

INTERNATIONAL TOURNAMENT OF CHAMPIONS

By Eric Fulcomer

The U.S. delegation heading to Cottbus, Germany for the International Tournament of Champions included gymnast Jon Lee, coach Constantin Petrescu and judge and delegation leader, Eric Fulcomer.

Alexei Voropaev, from the community of Independent States, won the all-around competition with a score of 58.40. Valeri Belenky, Voropaev's teammate, along with Romania's Marius Gherman tied for the silver medal with scores of 57.70.

Lee placed 16th with a 53.05 in the all-around. Lee is currently ranked third on the U.S. Men's Team Atlanta.

GRAND PRIX OF ITALY

The U.S. delegation heading to Milan, Italy on April 3-4 for the Grand Prix of Italy included gymnast Don Brown, coach Tom Dunn and judge and delegation leader Jon Boulton.

Italy's Yuri Chechi, fifth place finisher at the 1991 World Championships, and the 1991 World Champion, Grigori Misutin from the Community of Independent States, tied for the all-around gold medal with a score of 58.05.

Italy's Ruggero Rossato took the bronze with 57.80.

Brown, from the University of Iowa, placed 14th with an all-around score of 54.85. Brown did well competing with the best gymnasts in the world, especially in his first international competition. Brown is currently ranked fourth on the U.S. Men's Team Atlanta.