

China Wins the 1997 International 3 on 3 Gymnastics Championships

By Luan Peszek

The 1997 International 3 on 3 Gymnastics Championships utilized a unique and fun format. A women's artistic, men's artistic and rhythmic gymnast were combined to form a trio. Each of the three gymnasts on a team performed a routine of their choice and the scores were totaled. The top five teams from round one advanced to round two, the final round.

The trio from China won the title in Fort Worth, Texas, March 2. China was followed by Ukraine and the U.S. trio of Meaghan Muller, John Roethlisberger and Shannon Miller.

Fan Hongbin from China said, "We're glad that we won this event. The time difference has been very hard on us. If we had a competition again tomorrow we would be even better."

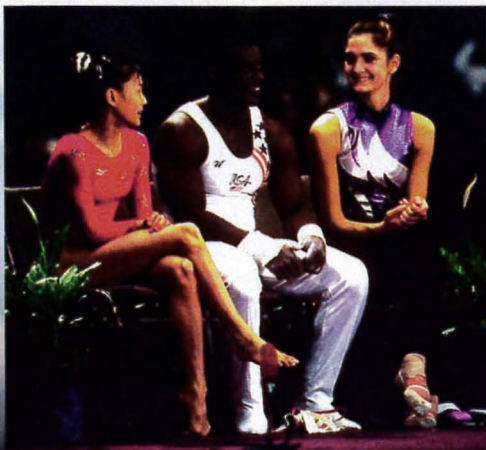
John Roethlisberger



Gold Medal
China Trio

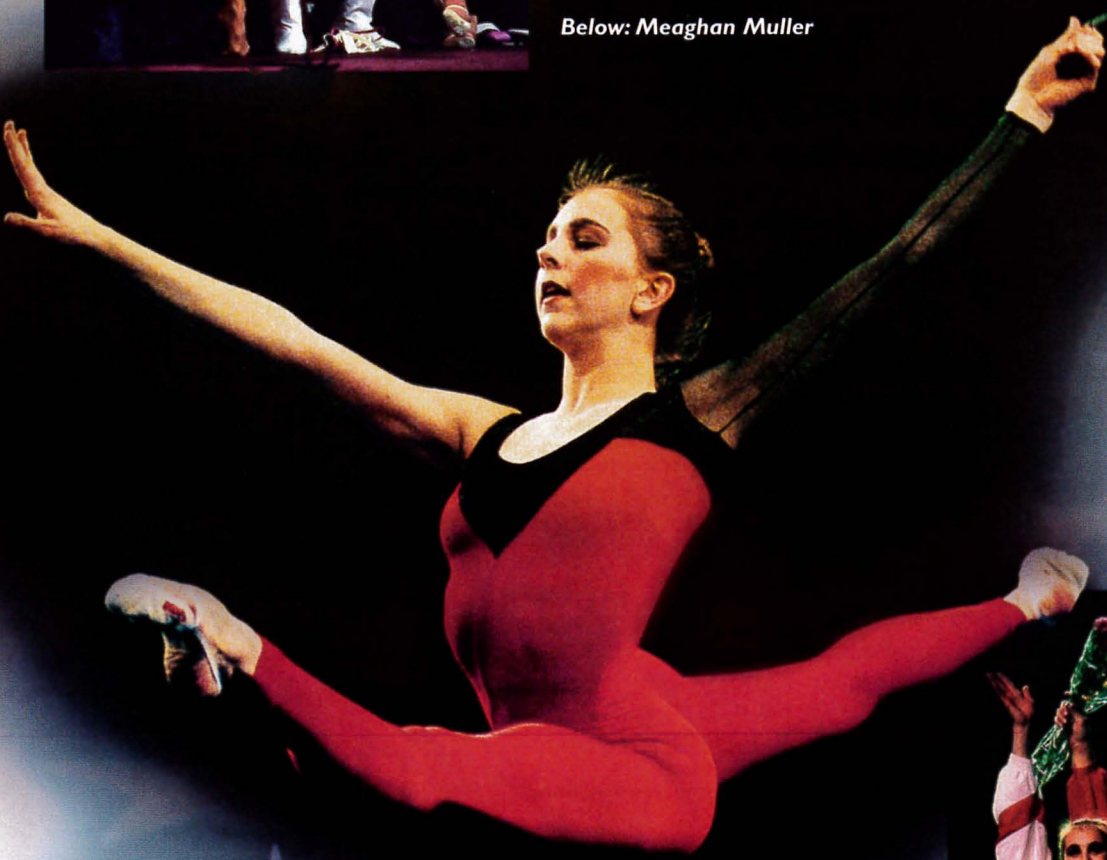


Silver Medal
Ukraine Trio



Left: Amy Chow,
Chainey Umphrey,
and Alicia Albe

Below: Meaghan Muller



Regarding her thoughts on the first competition since the John Hancock Tour of World Gymnastics Champions, Miller said, "The tour has been really fun and I've enjoyed getting to know everyone, but it was exciting to be back in a competition. I was more nervous than at the tour shows."

Roethlisberger said, "This format is a lot of fun. However, it's also a lot of pressure because you don't want to blow it for your teammates."

The second U.S. trio of Alicia Albe, Chainey Umphrey and Amy Chow took fourth in the team rankings.

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Bronze Medal
USA Trio

VISA AMERICAN CUP

WOMEN'S PRELIMINARY

#	Name	Country	VT	UB	BB	FX	AA
1.	Elvire Teza	FRA	8.850	9.375	9.175	9.125	36.525
2.	Ji Liya	CHN	9.488	8.450	8.850	9.600	36.388
3.	Kristin Maloney	USA	9.288	8.100	9.250	9.175	35.813
4.	Vanessa Adler	USA	9.500	8.800	9.300	8.200	35.800
5.	Oksana Chousovityna	UZB	9.250	8.450	9.050	8.875	35.625
6.	Lindsay Wing	USA	9.100	8.300	9.025	8.650	35.075
7.	Elise Ray	USA	8.663	9.100	9.100	8.050	34.913
8.	Alexandra Marinescu	ROM	8.238	8.425	9.225	9.000	34.888
9.	Shany Maceachern	CAN	9.063	8.600	8.300	8.575	34.538
10.	Mohini Bhardwaj	USA	8.750	8.450	8.975	8.075	34.250
11.	Elena Savko	BLR	8.350	8.375	8.400	8.625	33.750
12.	Elena Dalgopolova	RUS	8.938	8.775	7.775	8.150	33.638
13.	Risa Sugawara	JPN	8.438	8.175	8.425	8.475	33.513
14.	Olga Teslenko	UKR	8.650	8.000	8.825	7.800	33.275
15.	Ruth Moniz	AUS	8.838	8.375	8.000	7.925	33.138
16.	Gritt Hoffmann	GER	9.000	8.250	8.200	7.500	32.950
17.	Francesca Marotti	ITA	4.325	8.850	8.025	8.700	29.900

WOMEN'S FINAL

#	Name	Country	VT	UB	BB	FX	AA
1.	Elvire Teza	FRA	8.975	9.412	8.975	9.212	36.574
2.	Vanessa Adler	USA	9.443	8.900	9.412	8.812	36.567
3.	Ji Liya	CHN	9.500	8.550	9.000	9.362	36.412
4.	Oksana Chousovityna	UZB	9.331	8.712	9.162	9.050	36.255
5.	Alexandra Marinescu	ROM	9.099	8.512	9.287	9.200	36.098
6.	Kristin Maloney	USA	9.281	8.075	9.075	9.300	35.731
7.	Elena Savko	BLR	8.806	7.912	8.875	8.400	33.993
8.	Shany Maceachern	CAN	8.856	7.887	7.850	8.987	33.580

MEN'S PRELIMINARY

#	Name	Country	FX	PH	SR	VT	PB	HB	AA
1.	Blaine Wilson	USA	8.500	9.150	9.750	9.400	9.150	9.500	55.450
2.	John Roethlisberger	USA	8.650	9.050	8.900	9.200	9.000	8.950	53.750
3.	Juri Kryukov	RUS	8.850	9.000	8.150	9.500	8.900	8.400	52.800
4.	Valeri Belenki	GER	8.400	8.700	9.500	9.150	9.000	7.950	52.700
5.	Fan Hongbin	CHN	8.150	8.300	9.250	9.150	9.050	8.700	52.600
6.	Rustam Sharipov	UKR	8.450	8.900	8.050	9.100	9.300	8.650	52.450
7.	Andrei Kan	BLR	8.900	9.000	8.350	9.100	8.400	8.650	52.400
8.	Jay Thornton	USA	8.950	8.750	7.950	9.350	8.700	8.650	52.350
9.	Stephen McCain	USA	8.750	8.800	8.450	9.150	8.150	8.750	52.050
10.	Chainey Umphrey	USA	8.200	9.000	8.700	8.900	7.400	8.600	50.800
11.	Giovanni D'Innocenzo	ITA	7.700	7.950	8.550	8.650	8.850	8.600	50.300
12.	Yoshiro Saito	JPN	7.550	8.550	8.150	9.300	8.650	7.600	49.800
12.	Sebastien Tayac	FRA	8.100	7.800	8.450	8.900	8.500	8.050	49.800
14.	Blaz Puljic	SLO	7.350	9.050	7.900	8.750	8.050	8.300	49.400
15.	Dan Burinca	ROM	7.950	7.600	9.250	8.950	6.950	8.150	48.850
16.	Diego Lizardi	PUR	7.300	7.550	8.800	8.800	7.950	8.350	48.750
17.	Alexander Jeltkov	CAN	8.300	6.950	6.950	9.000	7.800	8.100	47.100

MEN'S FINAL

#	Name	Country	FX	PH	SR	VT	PB	HB	AA
1.	Blaine Wilson	USA	8.850	9.150	9.550	9.650	9.150	9.550	55.900
2.	Fan Hongbin	CHN	8.600	8.750	9.600	9.500	9.250	8.600	54.300
3.	Valeri Belenki	GER	8.800	8.900	9.400	9.300	9.200	8.550	54.150
4.	John Roethlisberger	USA	8.600	9.150	8.900	9.250	9.050	8.900	53.850
5.	Juri Kryukov	RUS	8.800	9.150	8.350	9.500	8.950	8.450	53.200
6.	Andrei Kan	BLR	9.000	8.500	8.650	8.800	8.600	8.900	52.450
7.	Rustam Sharipov	UKR	8.150	8.950	8.700	8.750	8.050	8.550	51.150
8.	Giovanni D'Innocenzo	ITA	7.900	8.750	8.250	8.800	8.350	8.700	50.750



RESULTS

INTERNATIONAL 3 ON 3 CHAMPIONSHIPS

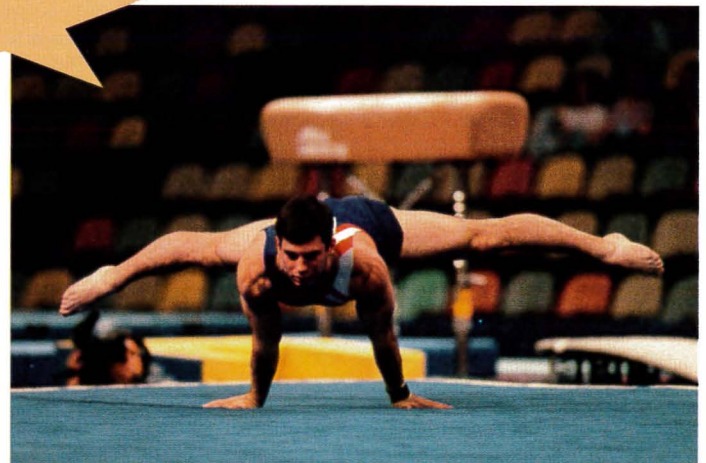
ROUND 1

1.	Zhou Xiaojing Fan Hongbin Ji Liya	CHN	28.250
2.	Alicia Albe Chainey Umphrey Amy Chow	USA	27.450
3.	Natalia Kurina Rustam Sharipov Olga Teslenko	UKR	27.025
4.	Meaghan Muller John Roethlisberger Shannon Miller	USA	26.950
5.	Laura Zacchilli Giovanni D'Innocenzo Francesca Marotti	ITA	26.050
6.	Yana Batyrchina Juri Kryukov Elena Dalgopolova	RUS	26.025
7.	Jana Pagenkopf Valeri Belenki Gritt Hoffmann	GER	25.800
8.	Valeri Vatkina Andrei Kan Elena Savko	BLR	25.475

Note: scores from round 1 did not carry over to round 2. Five teams advanced to the second round.

FINAL-ROUND 2

1.	Zhou Xiaojing Fan Hongbin Ji Liya	CHN	27.225
2.	Natalia Kurina Rustam Sharipov Olga Teslenko	UKR	27.050
3.	Meaghan Muller John Roethlisberger Shannon Miller	USA	26.875
4.	Alicia Albe Chainey Umphrey Amy Chow	USA	26.250
5.	Laura Zacchilli Giovanni D'Innocenzo Francesca Marotti	ITA	25.800



Above: Jay Thornton