



# 1999

*Viktoria Karpenko*

*Blaine Wilson*

By Luan Peszek

## The 1999 International 3-on-3 Gymnastics Championships took place on March 7, the final day of the Visa American Cup in St. Petersburg, Fla.

The competition 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 performed a routine of their choice and the scores were totaled. The top four trios from round one advanced to round two, the final round.

Although the team from Spain took an early lead after round one, the mixed trio of USA's Jessica Howard and Ukraine's Alexander Beresch and Viktoria Karpenko won the event after new life competition began in round two.

Fifteen-year-old Howard, who trains at International Rhythmic Gymnastics in Jacksonville, Fla., said, "This was an absolutely incredible experience. I found out two days ago I was competing and I feel

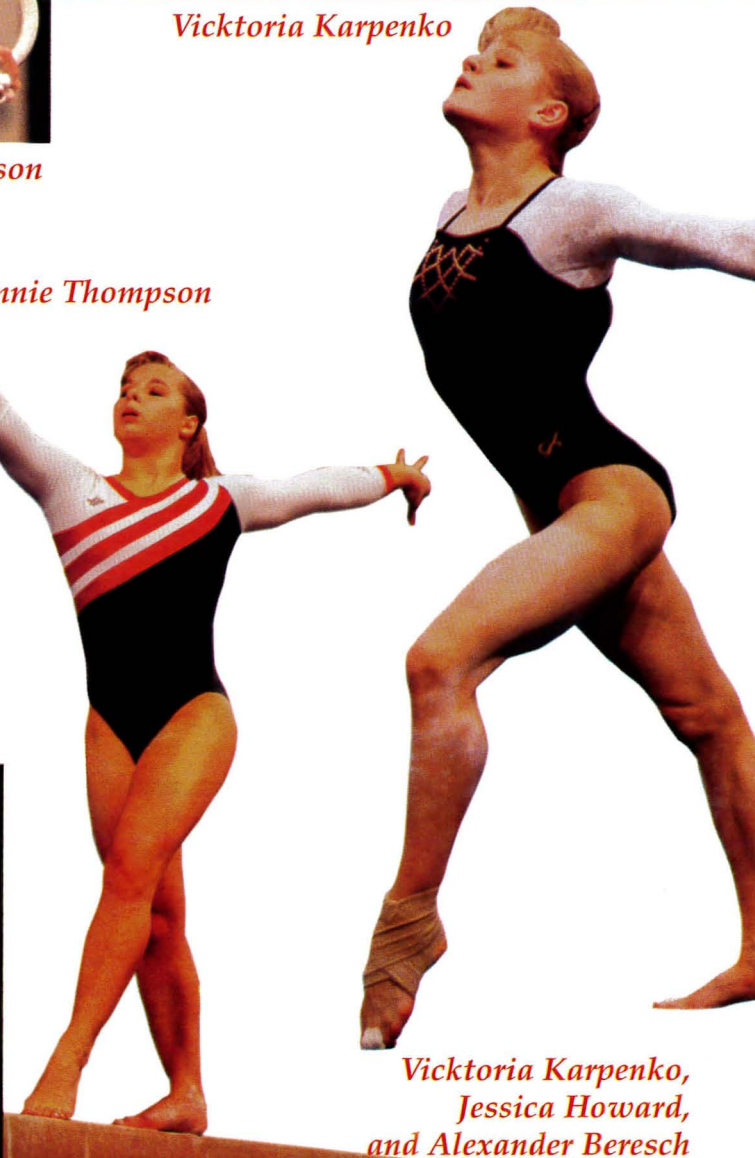
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*Jennie Thompson*

*Viktoria Karpenko,  
Jessica Howard,  
and Alexander Beresch*



*Eva Serrano*



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## ROTATION 1 STANDINGS

1. Almudena Cid	ESP	Ribbon	9.800	
Jesus Carballo Jr.	ESP	SR	9.600	
Rebeca Toledano	ESP	UB	9.575	28.975
2. Jessica Howard	USA	Rope	9.687	
Alexander Beresch	UKR	PH	9.475	
Viktoria Karpenko	UKR	UB	9.650	28.812
3. Tatiana Brikulskaia	USA	Ribbon	9.687	
Blaine Wilson	USA	SR	9.575	
Jennie Thompson	USA	FX	9.425	28.687
4. Natalie Lacuesta	USA	Hoop	9.587	
Jason Gatson	USA	FX	9.550	
Jeanette Antolin	USA	UB	9.450	28.587
5. Zhou Xiaojing	CHN	Hoop	9.162	
Zhang Jingjin	CHN	PH	9.250	
Liu Xuan	CHN	UB	9.650	28.062
6. Susanna Marchesi	ITA	Rope	9.425	
Bruno Malaspina	ITA	SR	9.100	
Adriana Crisci	ITA	BB	9.525	28.062
7. Kizzy Antualpa	BRA	Hoop	9.462	
Eric Lopez	CUB	PH	9.325	
Annika Reeker	GBR	FX	9.100	27.887
8. Eva Serrano	FRA	Ball	9.787	
Yann Cucherat	FRA	SR	8.500	
Ludivine Furnon	FRA	FX	8.200	26.487

## FINAL STANDINGS

1. Jessica Howard	USA	Ball	9.712	
Alexander Beresch	UKR	HB	9.725	
Viktoria Karpenko	UKR	FX	9.050	28.487
2. Tatiana Brikulskaia	USA	Hoop	9.575	
Blaine Wilson	USA	HB	9.050	
Jennie Thompson	USA	UB	9.700	28.325
3. Almudena Cid	ESP	Hoop	9.787	
Jesus Carballo Jr.	ESP	HB	8.850	
Rebeca Toledano	ESP	FX	9.625	28.262
4. Natalie Lacuesta	USA	Ball	9.375	
Jason Gatson	USA	HB	8.050	
Jeanette Antolin	USA	BB	9.400	26.825

Above:

*Natalie Lacuesta,  
Jason Gatson,  
Jeannette Antolin*

INTERNATIONAL 3-ON-3  
CHAMPIONSHIPS continued  
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very excited and blessed to even be here. I was paired with incredible gymnasts that I've watched on TV!"

Beresch and Karpenko agreed that they were very happy to have won and they were glad to have been combined with Jessica. Beresch said he was most pleased with his high bar routine and Karpenko said that she was most pleased with her uneven bars routine.

The winning trio just squeaked by the United States team made up of Tatiana Brikulskaia, Blaine Wilson and Jennie Thompson. The trio of Spain, comprised of Almudeno Cid, Jesus Carballo Jr., and Rebeca Toledano, took third. The second trio from the United States including Natalie Lacuesta, Jason Gatson and Jeanette Antolin, finished in fourth place.

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