

1998 SECTIONAL SUMMARY

VALPARAISO RECORDS HIGHEST

SECTIONAL TEAM SCORE

Top-ranked and defending state champion Valparaiso captured the Portage Sectional title last week by accumulating the highest team total in the state with 111.42 points and advanced to the regional round of the 26th Annual IHSAA Girls Gymnastics Tournament.

The top individual sectional performance at the eight sectionals across the state on March 7 was turned in by Tiffany Stewart of Portage, who won the Portage Sectional all-around title with a 37.80 score. Valparaiso will host one of the four regional competitions this week. The Valparaiso Regional is scheduled for Friday night (March 13), while action at Columbus East, Marion and North Central of Indianapolis is scheduled for Saturday afternoon (March 14).

The championship team at each regional site will advance to the 26th Annual IHSAA Girls Gymnastics State Finals on March 22 at Perry Meridian High School in Indianapolis.

SECTIONAL CHAMPIONS

March 7

Regional Advancement: Top three teams in each sectional advanced as a team; the top six individuals in each event and in the all-around scoring advanced to regional competition.

Site	Team Champion	All-Around Champion
Columbus East	Jeffersonville, 107.80	Laura Quinn, Jeffersonville, 36.65
Harrison (West Lafayette)	Western, 98.10	Amy Parish, Logansport, 34.85
Homestead	Fort Wayne Dwenger, 110.10	Paula Meszaros, Homestead, 37.35
Muncie Central	Marion, 101.60	Shera Shaw, Huntington North, 36.10
Portage	Valparaiso, 111.42	Tiffany Stewart, Portage, 37.80
Richmond	Connersville, 101.20	Tiffany Adams, Connersville, 34.70
Warren Central	Plainfield, 106.05	Jessica Perkins, Plainfield, 36.55
Wawasee	Warsaw 100.125	Jillian Letsch, Warsaw, 34.925

REGIONAL TEAM QUALIFIERS

March 13-14

Tickets: \$5.

State Finals Advancement: The team champion at each regional site advances as a team to the state finals. The top six individuals in each event and the all-around competition advance to the state finals. Individuals also may advance if their score matches or exceeds the score of the sixth-place finisher in that event at the 1997 IHSAA State Finals. Standards are: Floor Exercise (9.58); Balance Beam (8.90); Vault (9.40); Uneven Bars (9.18); All-Around (36.23).

Columbus East (March 14, Noon, EST) -- Bloomington South, Columbus North, Connersville, Jeffersonville, Richmond, Rushville.

Marion (March 14, Noon, EST) -- DeKalb, Fort Wayne Dwenger, Homestead, Jay County, Marion, Muncie Central.

North Central (Indianapolis), (March 14, 1 p.m., EST) -- Harrison (West Lafayette), Logansport, North Central (Indianapolis), Perry Meridian, Plainfield, Western.

Valparaiso (March 13, 6:30 p.m., CST) -- Chesterton, Elkhart Central, Hobart, Valparaiso, Warsaw, Wawasee.