

North Shore Gymnastics Association's Xcel and Developmental Program teams showed their strength at the Gopher Invite January 9-11 at Roy Wilkins Auditorium in St. Paul. The Xcel Gold team started off strong on Friday night with the team taking first place thanks to some top notch scores from several gymnasts. Cora Wegleitner (11, Hamel) took first place all-around in her division. Additionally, she took first on Bars and third on Vault. Landry Vaale (10, Hanover) earned second place all-around honors with her first place finish on Vault, third place finish on Beam, and fourth place finish on Floor. Other gymnasts of note were Elise Marcouiller (11, Maple Plain) taking second place on Vault, and Ellie Wexler (14, Plymouth) earning second place on Beam.

The level 7 gymnasts earned third place honors as a team with athletes making their way to the podium for individual medals. Harper Takkunen (13, Plymouth) placed second all-around, earning third place medals on Vault and Beam. Colbi Shelp (13, Maple Plain) took third all-around and placed third on Bars and fifth place on Vault. Ava Meyer (13, Rockford) placed fourth on Vault.

On Saturday, the Xcel Diamonds, Level 8, 9, and 10's made strong showings. Xcel Diamond Maddie Meyer (15, Rockford) took first place all-around with a first place on Vault and third place on Bars and Floor. Maya Wetter (12, Delano) placed fourth on Bars, and Kate Pohl (12, Corcoran) placed fourth on Vault. The Diamonds placed fourth as a team.

In the level 8 competition, Kennedy Farley (14, Long Lake) placed first on Bars and fourth on Vault. Natalie Reardon (13, Wayzata) placed third on beam. The Level 9 team won second place with outstanding routines from Madelyn Hallett (16, Minnetrista) who earned first place all-around honors with a first place finish on Beam and second place finishes on Vault and Bars. Grace Green (15, Chaska) placed first on Floor and second on Vault and Bars in her division. Additionally, Addison Berg (16, Mound) placed first on Bars and third on Vault, and Lillian Anderson (16, Hamburg) placed first on Bars. Level 10 gymnast Luciana Leyva (16, Mound) had a great meet, placing third all-around, taking first on Vault, second on Bars, and third on Beam. Another level 10 athlete, Siena Chermak (17, Mound) placed third on Floor.

The Xcel Platinum team wrapped up the weekend on Sunday afternoon with a great showing, taking home the second place banner as a team. The team earned several first place honors in their divisions. Ashley Meyer (12, Rockford) and Lauren Wheeler (11, Independence) both took first place on Beam. Lucy Jones (13, Mound) and Angelina Kovar (13, Independence) earned firsts on Floor. Alayna Sandbulte (11, Medina) earned first on Floor and third on Vault, placing fifth all-around. Meyer and Wheeler took third and fourth all-around respectively.

The Xcel and Level 7-10 teams will next compete at the TC Invite January 23-25 at Concordia University. All teams are looking forward to another great meet.

North Shore Gymnastics Association, Orono, was founded in 1974 and is a 501c3 non-profit organization. It is the club's purpose to acquaint children with all levels of physical ability, potential, and growth with the sport of gymnastics in an atmosphere of safe, fun, positive learning, and to help each child develop gymnastics skills, good sportsmanship and discipline. For more information please call 763-479-3189 or visit us at www.northshoregym.org.

Photo Caption:

North Shore's Xcel Gold team, pictured from left to right: Clair Boyle, Cora Wegleitner, Alexa Walters, Elise Marcouiller, Monroe Decker, Ellie Wexler, Grace Barsness, Reese Moslander, Landry Vaale, Shiloh Palmer, Kayleigh Kochar, Mackenzie Lewis