



KNOXVILLE CONVENTION CENTER

NEWS RELEASE

TO: Editors

FROM: Jim Allen, Moxley Carmichael / 544-0088

RE: The biggest gymnastics and tumbling competition in Southeast begins Friday, Jan. 16, at Knoxville Convention Center

DATE: Jan. 16, 2004

See more than 1,200 gymnasts from across the country at the 2004 John Macready Flipfest Invitational, Friday-Sunday, Jan. 16-18, at the Knoxville Convention Center. The three-day competition will feature gymnastics as well as power tumbling and trampoline events for all ages. More than 200 Knoxville-area athletes will participate in the invitational.

Host and former USA Olympian John Macready will perform during Saturday's Welcome Ceremony, which begins at 12:30 p.m. Macready competed on the 1996 USA Olympic Men's Gymnastics Team that placed fifth in the world. He also is a National Rock & Roll Gymnastics Champion, and a USA Gymnastics consultant and ESPN broadcaster for gymnastic competitions.

Sponsored by Premier Athletics Corporation of Knoxville, the invitational will benefit the not-for-profit Premier Gymnastics and Tumbling Booster Club. The money raised will help fund next year's Flipfest Invitational at the Knoxville Convention Center; Flipfest will be held at the convention center through 2007.

Flipfest Invitational Schedule:

Men's Gymnastics

- Friday competition starts at 7:30 p.m.
- Saturday and Sunday competitions start at 9:30 a.m.

Women's Gymnastics

- Friday competition starts at 3:20 p.m.
- Saturday and Sunday competitions start at 8:20 a.m.

Admission

- 2-day pass - adults, \$10; seniors and students, \$8
- 1-day pass - adults, \$8; seniors and students, \$5
- Children six and under admitted free

NOTE:

- **NO flash photography** is allowed in the competition area. A professional photography company will be taking action shots of the competitors *without the use of flash*. These photos will be available at company's booth. Spectators are permitted to photograph athletes in the awards arenas.

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