

Contest B :: Sports Writing

2018 KSPA State Contest



DIRECTIONS

Failure to follow these directions may result in disqualification from the contest without refund. **Please read, listen and follow carefully.**

1. Please complete the first page of the packet, including your school code and your name using the bubble chart provided.
2. Please take time to write your student code in the top right corner of each page you will use for your writing in this contest.
3. Please do not include your name or the name of your high school on the entry at all. If you do, your entry will be disqualified.
4. You have 90 minutes to write a story about a sports event at your school. The story should be approximately 300 words.
 - a. Please use the information provided below. The writer should determine which information is relevant and important to the story. Students may write in pencil or pen. Students may use dictionary, thesaurus and/or the Associated Press style manual. The use of personal listening devices, recording devices, cell phones, computers or other electronics is prohibited.
5. When you are finished with the writing, please bring this entire packet to the proctors at the front of the room **and remain at the table until they have checked your entry.**
6. Please leave the room quietly. Congratulations on writing well done!

DESCRIPTION

You are a member of Sunflower High School's journalism staff. Your editor has asked you to write a sports story of approximately 300 words.

SCHOOL INFO

Name: Sunflower High School

Location: Clinton, Kansas

Mascot: Mighty Buffalo

Enrollment: 800 (grades 9-12)

School colors: yellow and brown

Yearbook: The Sunflower

Newspaper: Sunflower News

Contest Info

This is an on-site contest.

Do not put your name on the entry. If you do, your entry will be disqualified.

Students may not request help or advice from any person other than the KSPA Executive Director Eric Thomas at

staff@kspaonline.org, and that advice must be requested before the start of the contest.

All work must be solely that of the contestant.

Where?

- At Clinton County Arena, the location for a variety of local high school activities

When?

- Saturday, April 28, 2018

What?

- Sunflower Varsity gymnastics team loses Class state championship on Saturday at Clinton County Arena after judge deducts from hair out-of-place on two teammates.

Who?

- about 600 fans, students from local high schools and their families

Quotes from Sunflower Varsity head coach Lana Williams, three previous team state championships, 14th year coaching

- "I can't believe we lost it this time around. The girls had a solid performance but I knew the judging was going to be harsher since we've been here before."
- "I didn't notice at the start of her routine on bars, but everyone was upset at Michelle for not having her hair pulled back entirely, causing a cut in the point system. It bothered us a lot until we realized Abigail's bangs didn't hold in her floor tumbling. That's when we knew we were pushing the score."
- "There are rumors that Michenstar paid off West Valley so that they would score higher overall. I trust Zang and Carter to be aware of stuff like that, but it's hard to tell whether they got involved to cheat."
- "The girls had a gorgeous routine they had spent months perfecting. I'm ashamed to find out that the smallest difference in scoring can make the difference between state and a second place. All you have to do is do the math! There are certainly a lot of tears going around. As a coach, I am not allowed to question the judges' comments or we could lose our second place finish too. But let's just say that the state association will be hearing from us. We are appealing. Yes indeed we are."

from Michelle Tealias, Sunflower High junior bars and beam competitor

- "It's just not fair! The judges are worthless and I worked my butt off to crush my routine!"
- "I don't get how Michenstar could have won state overall when we out-performed them. All because of my frikin' hair! [crying] I bet you a million dollars that is not the reason we lost. There was a scandal going on with Michenstar and West Valley. I'm going to dig to the bottom of this."

from Sunflower Varsity team captain, Abigail Garcia, senior floor routine competitor

- "I was almost in tears after my routine. Ok, I was in tears. It was just so hard to shake the pressure of trying to win state with my girls. But coach calmed me down until I realized my deductions on routine came from the most petty things. But then I got upset again because it was so petty. It was a rollercoaster. I'd give anything to go back and compete again. I feel like I've let my team down. This is not how I imagined my senior gymnastics career ending."

from judges score cards

- The score cards revealed that two deductions were taken for "hair". For "hair", Garcia was deducted 0.625 points during her floor tumbling routine. For "hair", Tealias was deducted 0.975 points during her bars routine. Both of these deductions caused the two to place second in their respective categories.
- According to state gymnastics rules, gymnasts can lose up to 0.300 points from out-of-place hair or leotards.

Coaches

Clinton Prep High School: Maggie Jones

East Valley High School: Thomas Wilson

Michenstar High School: Theodore Zang

Sunflower High School: Lana Williams

Sunflower West High School: Jeff Xavier

West Valley High School: Regan Carter

Ad Astra High School: Joey Mullen

Rolling Prairie High School: Samantha Porter

Individual Competitions

Vault:

1st Place: Lauren Coleman (SHS), 9.800

2nd Place: Ryleigh Stone (MHS), 9.400

3rd Place: Desiree Wiley (WVHS), 9.250

Bars:

1st Place: Emma Anderson (MHS), 9.075

2nd Place: Michelle Tealias (SHS), 9.025

3rd Place: Olivia Ellis (WVHS), 8.675

Beam:

1st Place: Michelle Tealias (SHS), 9.550

2nd Place: Isabella Hendrix (MHS), 9.475

3rd Place: Mia Delaney (WVHS), 9.350

Floor Routine:

1st Place: Charlotte Jennings (MHS), 9.400

2nd Place: Abigail Garcia (SHS), 9.375

3rd Place: Emily Langley (WVHS), 9.350

**Please see team scoring details
on the next page.**

Overall Scoring

The chart below shows the overall scores for the six teams in the Kansas state gymnastics championship:

School	Vault	Bars	Beam	Floor	Total	Place
MHS	27.050	25.000	26.650	27.025	105.725	1
SHS	27.200	24.325	26.975	26.600	105.100	2
WVHS	26.650	24.425	26.600	25.700	103.375	3
SWHS	26.200	24.200	25.925	26.300	102.625	4
CPHS	26.650	22.225	25.425	26.750	101.050	5
EVHS	25.500	22.750	25.825	26.400	101.475	6
AAHS	26.500	22.425	24.675	25.775	99.375	7
RPHS	25.500	20.550	25.100	25.925	97.075	8