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Coppell Gymnast is Olympic Hopeful

COPPELL – Chelsea Davis, 15, from Texas Dreams Gymnastics at EveryBody Fits in Coppell, Texas, will be one step closer to achieving her dream of becoming an Olympic team member when she competes in the USA Gymnastics' Visa Championships, June 5-7, in Boston, MA.

Davis will face a field of 25 of the nation's top women's gymnasts in the senior all-around and individual events for national titles and coveted membership on the U.S. Women's National Team. The Visa Championships is also the women's gymnastics qualifying event for the 2008 U.S. Olympic team trials, which will be held, June 19-22, in Philadelphia, PA.

Davis is a relative newcomer to the spotlight of women's gymnastics, but is quickly making a name for herself. She is currently the youngest member of the U.S. Women's National Senior Team and being mentioned as one to watch in the race to make the Olympic team.

In November, 2007, Davis helped the U.S. Women's National Team win gold with her third place all-around performance at the Junior Pan American Championships in Guatemala City, Guatemala. In March of this year, Davis helped the U.S. team win gold in Italy and at the Gymnix International competition in Montreal, Canada, with an impressive first place win in the senior all-around individual event. Davis also made her international senior debut in 2008, in Belgium, again displaying consistent all-around performances to help the U.S. team continue its gold medal winning streak.

Davis is coached by former all-around World Champion and Olympic medalist Kim Zmeskal Burdette and her husband, Coach Chris Burdette, who are both no strangers to the world of elite gymnastics. "I feel connected to Chelsea and understand her commitment to gymnastics and the sacrifices she has made in order to continue moving forward to achieve her dreams," said Zmeskal Burdette. "She knows how to push herself, but she also makes it fun. For Chelsea, anything is possible."

Chelsea's love for gymnastics and passion for competition began at the age of three and continues as she trains nearly 40 hours each week. In 2006, Chelsea moved from her hometown near Austin, TX, in order to train with Kim and Chris. While training, Davis most enjoys the working on the beam, but during competition prefers the vault because it "gives you a chance to use all your adrenaline and let it help you just go for it."

The 2008 Olympic Games will be held August 8-24, in Beijing, China.

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