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Nationals proved to be an exciting experience for MEGA's level 10's.

It was a first time trip to the National competition for level 10 gymnasts Kelsey Turnquist, Kylie Fagan and Lindsay Bridges. The level 10 JO National competition is the culminating event for USAG level 10 gymnasts. The top seven gymnasts from each age group in eight regions qualify to compete at the National Championships. This year the National Championships were held in Seattle, Washington.

Each region competes against each other for team and individual awards. Region 5 is known for their success in the team competition, and to no one's surprise Region 5 captured the Super-team award!

Why is it such a great experience for the gymnasts?

The gymnasts stay together at the Region 5 hotel. This allows for friendships to develop. The gymnasts get to know each other, which is very helpful when the competition begins, as everyone is cheering for each other.

The gymnasts follow a specific itinerary which includes practice times, hair and make-up time for competition, marching practice and competition times. The gymnasts are in an environment which is conducive for gymnastics. There are not outside distractions to interfere with the focus.....doing gymnastics! All site seeing is done after the competition.

We are very proud of our athletes and how they carried themselves throughout the competition. There were some very exciting moments!

Kelsey competed in the Senior B age group and contributed to the team score on bars. Region 5 ended up taking the first place team award in this age group. Kylie and Lindsay competed in the Junior D age group. The Region 5 Junior D team placed second as a team.

Lindsay had an outstanding performance on bars, as she ended up placing 4th (yes, in the country)! In the all around, Kelsey finished 40th, while Kylie was 39th and Lindsay 28th in their respective age groups. All the girls have set their goals higher for next year, as they do not want to miss out on this great experience again.

The National Invitational Tournament was also held the same weekend, and MEGA's Kayla Weber competed in the Junior B division. Kayla had some strong performances, and placed 4th on vault, 5th on bars, 9th on beam, 8th on floor, and 6th in the All Around.

Keep watching as the gymnasts from MEGA keep climbing their way to the top!