



# BIG 12 CONFERENCE NEWS

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## OKLAHOMA EARNS SECOND BIG 12 GYMNASTICS TITLE

**NORMAN, Okla.** — Oklahoma captured the 2008 Big 12 Gymnastics Championship on Saturday at Lloyd Noble Center on the University of Oklahoma campus. The Sooners claimed their second crown in the Big 12's 12-year history, with the other coming 2004.

The Sooners compiled a score of 195.875 followed by runner-up Iowa State (195.775). Last season's championship host Missouri (195.225) and the defending champions Nebraska (194.975) finished in third and fourth place, respectively.

Individual champions include Missouri's Adrienne Perry in the all-around (39.375) as well as a shared title on floor with Oklahoma's Kiara Redmond-Sturms (9.900), who also won top honors on vault (9.950). Her teammate Haley DeProspero shared the crown with Nebraska's Tricia Woo on balance beam (9.900).

The top four finishers in each event including all-around earned All-Big 12 Championship Team honors. The conference also announced its Gymnast, Newcomer and Coach of the Year in a vote by Big 12 coaches.

Redmond-Sturms (Oklahoma) was named Big 12 Gymnast of the Year while Sarah Shire (Missouri) was honored as Big 12 Newcomer of the Year and K.J. Kindler (Oklahoma) as Big 12 Coach of the Year.

Leading the Sooners to the only undefeated regular season in the NCAA this year (18-0), Redmond-Sturms led the Big 12 with 11 all-around titles, 43 event crowns and set a conference record with seven Big 12 Gymnast of the Week honors this season. The senior All-American leads the conference in uneven bars with a regional qualifying score of 9.890 as well as floor exercise (9.935), which she currently ranks second in the nation. She also had the top four all-around scores of all Big 12 gymnasts this year and was the only Big 12 gymnast to place among the top four conference gymnasts in each event.

Shire captured 19 event titles on the year including four in a victory against Centenary. At that meet, she posted career highs in all-around (39.500) and floor (9.925) and was honored as Big 12 Co-Gymnast of the Week. Shire is a member of the 2008 All-Big 12 team as she ranks third in the conference on vault with a regional qualifying score of 9.875.

Kindler has been recognized by her peers for the fourth time as Big 12 Coach of the Year as she was awarded the honor three straight years as Iowa State's head coach (2004-06). She led the Sooners to the only undefeated regular season in the NCAA this year (18-0) and a Top 10 national ranking. OU's regional qualifying average is 196.019 with a high score of 196.750 through the regular season.

Three of the four Big 12 teams entered the meet nationally ranked in the Top 20. Oklahoma is rated ninth while Nebraska is 14th and Missouri, 18th.

### TEAM RESULTS

Oklahoma	195.875
Iowa State	195.775
Missouri	195.225
Nebraska	194.975

-Big 12-