



# SENER BECOMES HAWAII'S FIFTH AGE GROUP WORLD CHAMPION GYMNAST



Sydney Senter 11-12 female double mini-trampoline WORLD CHAMPION

For the fifth time since trampoline gymnastics became an Olympic Sport (2000) a Hawaii gymnast has stood atop of the awards platform and heard the US National Anthem played while the US flag was raised in a ceremony declaring them World Champion. Last night it was Sydney Senter in the 11-12 female age group for the double mini-trampoline event at the 23<sup>rd</sup> World Age Group Competitions for Trampoline and Tumbling in Daytona Beach, Florida. [Previous Hawaii World Champions were Nani Vercreyssen (2005, 2007 2x) and Kelsen Onigama (2007).]

Also on the awards stand was Alexander Paul who received a bronze medal in the 11-12 boys synchronized trampoline event. And just missing a medal in fourth place was Kayttie Nakamura in the 11-12 girls double mini-trampoline and synchronized trampoline events.



Alexander Paul and synchronized trampoline partner Zach Ramacci received bronze medals

The experience became very emotional during the awards ceremony when US coaches, parents, and even spectators near the US delegation dried for delight and tension release. US National Team Coach (and coach of the Hawaii gymnasts) Nani Vercreyssen cried for their achievements and because it was her final international meet with them before leaving for graduate school in elementary education. [Vercreyssen becomes the assistant coach in December behind the new head coach Spencer Dupio a US elite national champion and bronze medalist in the 2007 Age Group World Championships.] The gymnasts were occupied making friendships with US team mates and other top gymnasts around the world. Achieving their dreams may not catch up to them for a few days.

Video replays and results are available at the USA national governing body's official website (<https://usagym.org/pages/tt/pages/>), the event official website (<http://www.ttworlds.com/live/>), and on [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com).

The international governing body's official website: <http://www.fig-gymnastics.com/site/competition/view?id=6494>.

### Additional Details:

Each country is allowed a total of 80 individuals to compete in individual trampoline (TRI), synchronized trampoline (TRS), double mini-trampoline (DMT), and power tumbling (TUM) with a maximum of four per age group and sex. The four age groups are 11-12, 13-14, 15-16, and 17-18. [There are 128 competitive spots per national team (2sex X 4gymnasts X 4groups X 4events) that may be filled by a maximum of 80 individuals.]

An event is scheduled for each day with qualifying in the morning and finals (top 8) in the afternoon or evening. Individual trampoline competition for the 11-12 age group is Thursday (11/13), TRS is Friday (11/14), DMT is Saturday (11/15), and TUM is Sunday (11/16), although Hawaii gymnasts are not competing in tumbling.



**Sydney Senter** (12, Hawaii Baptist Academy) placed **1<sup>st</sup>** on **DMT (world champion!)**.






**Alexander Paul** (12, Moanalua Middle School) placed **3<sup>rd</sup>** on **TRS**, **5<sup>th</sup>** on **DMT**, and **14<sup>th</sup>** on **TRI**.



**Kayttie Nakamura** (12, Kaimuki Middle School) placed **4<sup>th</sup>** on **DMT**, **4<sup>th</sup>** on **TRS**, and **13<sup>th</sup>** on **TRI**.

### U.S. MEDALISTS

 Gold	 Silver	 Bronze
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Paige Howard - 15-16 DMT</li><li>Gretchen Schultz - 13-14 TUM</li><li>Madi Webster - 17-18 DMT</li><li><b>Sydney Senter</b> - 11-12 DMT</li><li>Jessica Stevens/Virginia Hansen - 13-14 TRS</li><li>Alyssa Oh - 13-14 DMT</li><li>Eve Doudican - 11-12 TUM</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Stewart Pritchard - 17-18 DMT</li><li>Carly Townsend - 13-14 DMT</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Amanda Spitzer - 15-16 DMT</li><li>Rachel Thevenot - 13-14 TUM</li><li>Mikala Collier - 17-18 DMT</li><li><b>Alexander Paul</b>/Zachary Ramacci - 11-12 TRS</li><li>Armand Reichelt - 13-14 DMT</li><li>Miles DeBose - 11-12 TUM</li></ul>

Results, stories, and pictures: <https://usagym.org/pages/tt/events/2014/agegroup.html>



# COACHES

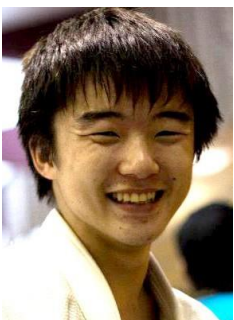
All three gymnasts compete for the Hawaii Trampoline and Tumbling Club and train at Hawaii Academy in Honolulu. They are coached by Nani Vercreuyssen (with assistants Spencer Dupio and Kelsen Onigama). Their coaches were previous Age Group World Championships medalists from Hawaii Academy. For additional information contact Dr Donna Mah ([mah@hawaii.edu](mailto:mah@hawaii.edu); 842.5642). Photographs available upon request.



**NANI VERCRUYSEN** (Hawaii Head Coach; USA Team National Coach) is the most decorated gymnast, ever, from Hawaii winning all levels of US National Championships (Level 10, Junior Elite, and Senior Elite), as well as national championships in many other countries, USAG Sportswoman of the Year, 10 years on US National Teams, National Team Most Valuable Gymnasts Award, and has represented the US in all world events except the Olympics. She is a three-time Age Group World Champion and now a US national team coach at this event, probably the youngest US elite national coach ever at 22.



**SPENCER DUPIO** (Assistant Coach, to become head coach December 1<sup>st</sup>) is a US National Champion at Level 10 and Junior Elite and was a bronze medalist in the 2007 Age Group World Championships.



**KELSEN ONIGAMA** (Assistant Coach) is a US National Champion at Level 10 and a 12 year old Age Group World Champion. Yes, Onigama won the world championships that he is coaching three Hawaii gymnasts to attend (see cover and article in Hawaii Parent Magazine).

