

## **Service to Youth**

2002 - Doug Fitzjarrel: Waco : Doug came to Odessa Junior College from Colorado Springs in 1970. He was a two-time Nat. AA Champ & a team member of two NJCAA Championship teams. From Odessa , Doug went to Iowa State Univ. where, in 1974, he won numerous awards including NCAA FX Champ, Scholar Athlete of the Year, was a Nominee for the Nissen Award, and earned a BS degree in Physical Education. He taught/coached gymnastics at Snyder High School in the late 70's where his girls' team won two Division 2 Team Titles. Master's Degree in Sports Psychology at Ohio State University in 1980 and moved to Waco where he eventually opened High Tumbler Gymnastics Center . Doug has served as Vice President of GAT and in 1990-1992 served the youth of Texas as the USGF Women's State Chairman. Doug has coached athletes up to and including National Level gymnasts in USGF and has been a dedicated attendee of this GAT Convention since 1980 until 1999 when he sold the High Tumbler Gym. Doug has been a clinician at GAT many years and has worked at numerous summer camps both here in Texas and nation wide. He has been a tremendous influence to many of our Texas athletes. He loved the sport, he loved the kids. It is with great pleasure that we present Doug Fitzjarrel this Service to Youth Award.

## **TEXAS GYMNASTICS HERITAGE AWARD**

2002 - Jack Hyman: New York City: Jack was an active owner/coach in the 70's. He owned and was coach at San Antonio Gymnastics Academy, where he hosted numerous GAT conventions in the earlier years, and served as president during the 79-80 year. Jack continued to teach gymnastics when he moved to New York as a great support job while pursuing his two other loves, acting and writing. It was through his work with preschoolers and his gymnastics background that landed him the job of "Jumpin Jack" on the PBS-TV show, "Bloopy's Buddies." The show features characters who stress health, safety, fitness, and nutrition for children ages 3 to 7. His role on the show has been to exercise interactively with children watching at home and to teach on each episode a different interactive motor skill that the child at home may follow and participate along with "Jumpin Jack" and "Bloopy". This show has been broadcast on PBS, Cable, Web-MD, and Health Network for almost 10 years, with its final season this year. Jack hopes to find or create another Children's Show that stresses some of the same elements. In 2001, Jack, as a writer with a gymnastics background, was asked by ESPN to travel to Belgium to write for the broadcast. He has been asked back for the 2002 World Championships in Hungary and for the 2003 World Championships in California. Jack continues to write and direct regularly in New York City and....."I make sure that I do at least one handstand everyday, for old times sake!" It is indeed a pleasure to present Jack Hyman with the GAT Texas Heritage Award.

## **Gold Honor**

2002 - TODD THORNTON: Houston Gymnastics Academy: coached by Kevin Mazeika; Alternate, 2001 World Championships Team; Finalist in Floor Exercise and Vault, Glasgow Grand Prix; 2002 Winter Cup All Around Champion; Member 2002 Gold Medal Team, All Around, Pommel Horse Champion at Jurassic Classic Meet in Canada.

2002 - SEAN TOWNSEND: Houston Gymnastics Academy: coached by Kevin Mazeika; 2001 World Champion on Parallel Bars; member of Silver Medal Team, 2001 World Championships; 2002 Senior. Pacific. Alliance Gold Medal Team; Floor Exercise, Rings and Parallel Bars Champion at the 2001 USA Championships.

2002 - KEVIN MAZEIKA: Houston Gymnastics Academy; Head coach, Silver Medal Team, 2001 World Championships; coach of Sean Townsend, Jason Furr, Todd Thonrton.

## **THE HONORARY LIFE MEMBERSHIP AWARD**

2002 - BRANDY HANEY: Round Rock: Brandy received her B.S. and M.A. in Sports Administration from UT Austin. She has spent 21 years of her life coaching high school gymnastics, 20 of those years in Round Rock. Her Round Rock High School girls' teams have won 15 Regional and 2 State Championships. Teams under Brandy's leadership have qualified to State Championships each of her 21 years of coaching and many were finalist and have won State individual titles at one time or another in each of the events. Three times Brandy has had gymnasts selected for the National High School Championships and was once the honorary head coach for the Texas delegation. Over 100 of her gymnasts have been All American and top 10 nationally ranked, including a #1 ranking of both individuals and team as designated by the National High School Gymnastics Coaches Association. Brandy has been named Regional Coach of the Year 9 times, Texas State Coach of the Year 3 times, and National Coach of the Year 2 times. She has received Texas Women's Judge of the Year; numerous GAT Honor and Merit Awards; the GAT Distinguished Service Award twice and received a Life Member Award by the Texas High School Gymnastics Coaches Association. She has served as the Secretary/ Treasurer of the Texas High School Gymnastics Coaches Association for 9 years and the Region II Technical Director for 14 year. During the 1990's Brandy was a member of the GAT Board, serving as apprentice Executive Secretary under PaPa GAT, Brian Schenk, and later served as GAT Executive Secretary. Upon retirement from public education, Brandy is co-owner and instructor of "funbus"...a pre-school gymnastics academy on wheels, teaching weekly classes at day care centers, mother's day out programs, elementary schools, etc., along with participating in hundred of birthday parties, carnivals, corporate events, etc. To quote Brandy: "(I) love teaching preschool gymnastics, operating in the business world and judging the competitive gymnasts of Texas .....Loving it!!!!" It doesn't get any better than this. It is GAT's pleasure to present our 2002 Honorary Life Member: Brandy Haney.