

## Brenna Dowell earns silver at Junior Olympic Nationals

Brenna Dowell recently returned from Seattle, Wash., where she competed for The Great American Gymnastics Express in the Junior Olympic National Gymnastics Championships. She received the silver medal in the all-around competition with a career high score of 37.70.

In the individual events, she received the gold medal on vault and the silver medal on floor exercise.

The Region IV team, which included teammates Kaitlyn Ohashi and Sydney Kennedy, finished second in the Junior A Division.

Dowell trains with The Dragons Gymnastics team at The GAGE Center in Blue Springs under the direction of Vardan Sargsyan who joined the Dragon team coaching staff, directed by Al Fong and Armine Barutyan, in 2004 bringing with him more than 20 years of international competitive and coaching expertise.

Dowell is a level 10 gymnast with sights set on becoming a USA National Team member. Her next step is a June



***Silver medalist...*** Brenna Dowell, right, earned a silver medal at the Junior Olympic National Gymnastics Championships in Seattle, Wash. She is coached by Vardan Sargsyan, left, at The GAGE Center, Blue Springs.

trip to Pennsylvania to try to qualify for the US Classic.

According to Coach Vardan, "Brenna has all the traits, talent and de-

termination necessary to accomplish her goals."

Dowell, the daughter of Mike and Carole Dowell, is a student at Odessa Middle School.