

# GYMKANA NEWSLETTER

Vol. XXXIII

March 2007

## **Message from Gymkana's Director and Head Coach - Scott Welsh**

I hope this newsletter finds all of you happy and in good health. As another year races toward its finale, I am happy to report that all is well in the gym with the 2006-07 Gymkana Troupe! They are working hard to give you another excellent Home Show!

As I am sure was the case with many of your own Road Shows, this year has had some interesting, yet exciting challenges. We have been fortunate to do several shows at local elementary schools. This is very exciting for the Gymkana athletes because the younger kids in the audiences get so involved with the performances. It's such a treat to do a show in front of a room of screaming young kids that see all of the Gymkana athletes as superstars.

The down side has been that two of the shows have been in gyms smaller than some classrooms in our building. Needless to say we have had to be pretty creative with show continuity and equipment placement, but that all adds to the excitement.

Our Home Show is guaranteed to bring excitement and high-flying acrobatics once again. This year it will be held on April 13th and 14th at 7:00 p.m. with our alumni party to be held immediately following the Saturday-evening performance. Ticket information can be found below. I look forward to seeing many of you there.

On a personal note, Kate and I are doing well. Our wedding day is fast approaching. As Home Show winds down the planning for that special day, May 20<sup>th</sup>,

will wind up, but I am truly very excited. As I mentioned before we will be living in Bowie, and I would love to catch up with any local alumni! If any of you are in the area and would like to stop by for a practice or to have lunch, drop me a phone call and/or email. It's always great to get together with alumni. See you in April!

CW (Coach Welsh)

## **Message from Gymkana's President - Ben Prescott**

Greetings! I am happy to say that we have had a very successful season thus far. We have been extremely well received at our performances, including both the men and women's basketball games versus Duke and our annual showing at Hagerstown. We have a very talented team this year with experienced veterans and fast-learning newcomers. I am very proud and excited about the progress we've made.

Meanwhile, preparations for this year's Home Show are well under way. I hope that you are planning to attend. Seeing our team's consistency, enthusiasm, and continuing development lets me know that this year's Home Show will not disappoint!

## **Help Us Market Our Programs**

As coaches and troupers we are always looking for ways to get the Gymkana name, and its programs out there, both to get more publicity and as a way of facilitating our fund-raising activities. As alumni, if you have any ideas for ways to increase or improve these efforts, or if you know of an

upcoming opportunity that might be of benefit to Gymkana, please contact Scott Welsh via email ([swelsh2@umd.edu](mailto:swelsh2@umd.edu)) or phone (301-405-2566).

### **Donations**

Even with all of our fund-raising activities, one of our most consistent means of raising funds has always been the generous support of our alumni. For those of you who have already given, please accept our heartfelt thanks.

As always, any donations you give will be completely tax deductible. Make checks out to: **University of Maryland Foundation - Gymkana**. Please send all donations to:

**Mr. Scott Welsh**  
**Head Coach / Director**  
**University of Maryland Gymkana Troupe**  
**Rm 1120D Bldg, 255 Valley Drive**  
**College Park, MD 20742**

Thank you.

### **Home Show Information**

April 13th and 14th @ 7:00 PM

Tickets In Advance (at the Comcast ticket windows or by contacting Scott Welsh):  
UM Students and Alumni - \$5.00, Children 12 and under - \$6.00 and Adults - \$7.00

#### At the Door Prices

\$7.00, \$8.00 and \$9.00 respectively

### **Summer Camp**

If you have or know of any budding troupers of tomorrow, don't forget that Gymkana Summer Camp is the place for them to be. The camp extends the philosophy of Gymkana by providing an opportunity for boys and girls of all abilities to learn gymnastics, while stressing healthy, drug-free living. Our camp provides an environment for children to learn and participate in gymnastics without the pressure of competition. Dates and prices

are as follows.

Week 1 June 18 - 22, 2007  
Week 2 - June 25 - 29, 2007  
Week 3 - July 2 - 6, 2007  
Week 4 - July 9 - 13, 2007  
Week 5 - July 16 - 20, 2007  
Week 6 - July 23 - 27, 2007

\$215.00 for any one week  
\$390.00 for any two weeks  
\$580.00 for any three weeks  
\$780.00 for any four weeks  
\$970.00 for any five weeks  
\$1160.00 for six weeks

A registration form with additional information is attached.

### **Alumni News**

Congratulations to alumnus **Haley Lewis** (formerly Saint Vincent) and her husband, Dave, on the birth of their first child, a boy, on Nov. 26th, 2006 - Jesse B. Lewis.

Our thanks go out to alumnus Jim Houck who wrote after the last newsletter to remind us that there were at least several more Gymkana couples who recently celebrated 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversaries. They include **Paul Simmers and Marge Jones**, married on June 2, 1956, **Jim Houck and Barbara Headlee**, married on June 9, 1956 and **James Walker and Nancy Sigmon** on June 11, 1956. Congratulations.

As always, if you have any news you would like to share with your fellow alumni, please email it to [tsupple@erols.com](mailto:tsupple@erols.com). The next newsletter is scheduled to come out in November or December 2007.

### **Website Address Change**

Please note that Gymkana's website has changed to [www.gymkana.umd.edu](http://www.gymkana.umd.edu). [www.gymkana.org](http://www.gymkana.org) will work for a while longer, however we will be phasing it out over time.