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For Immediate Release:

## Gymnasts Raise Over \$160,000 for Women with Breast Cancer

West Chester, PA - March 29, 2011 Almost 1,500 gymnasts from the Mid-Atlantic states raised over \$160,000 to help women with breast cancer at the 2011 Pink Invitational~Gymnasts Unite meet held February 25-27. Proceeds from the three-day competition and outreach event benefit Unite for HER (UFH), a breast cancer nonprofit organization dedicated to providing programs and initiatives that educate, empower and restore. Hosted for a third year by AJS Pancott Gymnastics NTC, located in West Chester, Pennsylvania, the Pink Invitational brought a message of unity, hope, and joy to so many families.

The Pink Invitational was so much more than a gymnastics meet. The event inspired teams to give to others in need and encouraged these young female athletes to become philanthropists in their own communities. This year, 25 teams held local fundraisers and collectively raised over \$45,000 for UFH. The girls and young women participating in the event received educational information about simple yet important choices they can make to guard their health and wellness, including an introduction to organic and 100% natural products. The Pink Invitational also featured speakers and local artists that gave their time and talent to support women with breast cancer.

New this year was the BRAVADO Inspirational Art Exhibit and Auction, sponsored by GK Elite Sportswear. Celebrity gymnasts such as Nastia Liukin, Shawn Johnson, Shannon Miller and many others joined community members and participating gyms to create embellished sports bra masterpieces that were displayed at the Pink Invitational. Each aspect of the event was designed to educate, increase awareness, encourage unity, and raise funds for women affected by the disease. Pink Invitational founder Sue Weldon believes the success of this outreach comes from the generous and unwavering support shown by the local and gymnastics communities. She is humbled each year by the outpouring of donations and sponsorships that have enabled the Pink Invitational to raise a total of over \$350,000 in the last three years.

For more information about the Pink Invitational or Unite for HER, please visit their respective websites at [pinkinvitational.com](http://pinkinvitational.com) and [uniteforher.org](http://uniteforher.org).

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**About Unite for HER:** Unite for HER is a nonprofit organization founded in 2009 by breast cancer survivor, Sue Weldon. As a survivor, Sue knows the struggles and challenges of facing the disease and is dedicated to supporting women with breast cancer. The organization has developed four areas of outreach that are funded by private donations, sponsorships, grants, and fundraising events. Each of these outreach opportunities was designed to fulfill the organization's mission, which is to make a positive difference in the lives of women and girls by supporting and providing breast cancer programs and initiatives that educate, empower and restore.

**About AJS Pancott Gymnastics NTC:** AJS Pancott Gymnastics began in 1997 as an expansion of Pancott Gymnastics, one of the oldest gymnastics programs in the country. It has grown to be one of the largest competitive women's gymnastics programs in Pennsylvania, sending numerous gymnasts to Nationals and to university programs on scholarship. AJS Pancott Gymnastics offers competitive training and recreational gymnastics to hundreds of local athletes from ages 18 months to 18 years. AJS Pancott Gymnastics is owned and operated by Steve and Louise Pancott.

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