



CHRIS BROOKS WINS WINTER CUP CHALLENGE

Chris Brooks, 23, won the all-around title at the 2010 Winter Cup Challenge in Las Vegas, Nev., Feb. 6. He said, "Winning the all-around title at the Winter Cup Challenge felt awesome! After hurting my ankle in the summer before the 2009 Visa Championships and not re-making the national team, it felt great to earn my spot again. I trained very hard for this competition so competing well felt good, and winning was an added bonus."

Brooks, who is from Houston, has completed his eligibility at the University of Oklahoma but is still training in Norman and finishing up his degree. He's coached by Mark Williams and Rustam Sharipov.

The former Sooner captain and four-year letter winner, Brooks also won the horizontal bar title at the Winter Cup and was most pleased with his performance on that event. He said, "It was only my second time trying that high bar routine in a competition and I feel like I performed it well both days."



Training with so many top guys from Oklahoma, who are also on the national team, is an added bonus to Brooks. He said, "It is awesome training with so many guys on the national team. We all push each other to get better and help each other out when we struggle in the gym. The guys all have a lot of knowledge of gymnastics so they are not only good teammates, but also give good coaching advice as well."

As far as what's next, he's planning to compete in the Tyson American Cup, hopes to get some other international assignments and gain other competitive experience. "My goal is to push for a spot on the World Championships Team in 2010," said Brooks.

When asked about hobbies outside of gymnastics, Brooks likes sports cars. "It's in the blood. My dad used to race motorcycles, so that's where it started. We rode for a few years until my brother turned 16 and got his first car. Our passion went from dirt bikes to sports cars and we never looked back." ✕