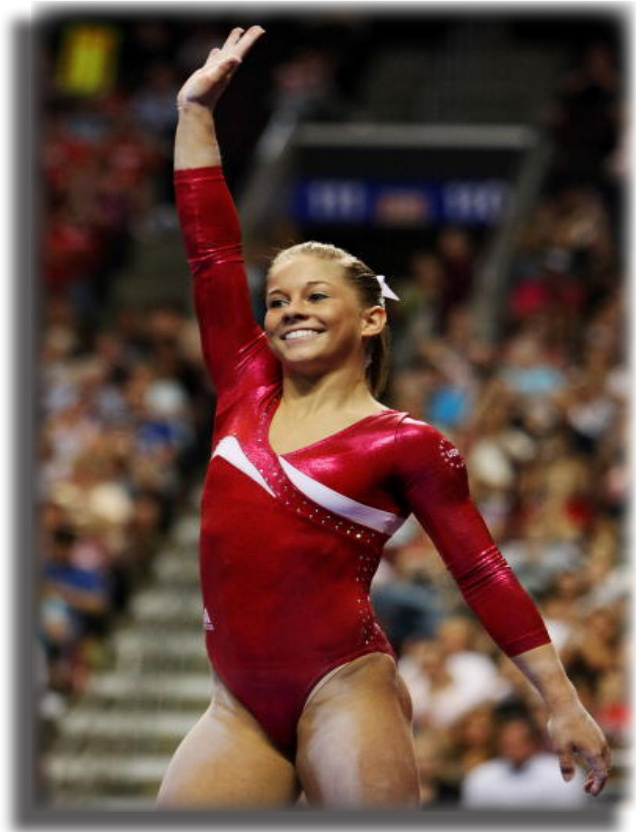




# Shawn Johnson

Johnson was born in Des Moines, Iowa, the daughter and only child of Doug and Teri Johnson. Her parents enrolled her in a gymnastics class at age three after they noticed her climbing up cabinets and jumping down from tables. At the age of six, she was among the first students when Liang Chow opened a gymnastics school in West Des Moines. Johnson currently attends Valley High School in West Des Moines, Iowa, entering the 2008–09 school year as a junior. Unlike most elite gymnasts who train approximately 40 hours a week and have private tutors, Johnson trains 20–25 hours a week and attends a public high school.



**“ I don’t think I’ve ever not gotten nervous... If you lose the nerves, you lose the sport.”**

At the 2008 Summer Olympics Johnson competed in all four events during the team competition, in which the United States won the silver medal. Johnson also won the silver medal in the individual all-around competition, receiving a score of 62.725. Johnson’s teammate and roommate at the Olympic Village, Nastia Liukin, won the gold medal, receiving a score of 63.325. With Liukin taking gold and Johnson silver, this competition was the first time that the United States Women’s Gymnastics team took both the gold and silver medals in the individual all-around competition; this competition also marks only the fourth time any country has won both the gold and silver medals in the individual all-around competition. She won the silver medal in floor exercise, with teammate Liukin taking bronze. She did, however, win a gold medal on the balance beam apparatus.

Medal Record		
Women’s Gymnastics		
Competitor for the  United States		
Summer Olympics		
<b>Gold</b>	2008 Beijing	Balance Beam
<b>Silver</b>	2008 Beijing	Team
<b>Silver</b>	2008 Beijing	All-around
<b>Silver</b>	2008 Beijing	Floor
World Championships		
<b>Gold</b>	2007 Stuttgart	Team
<b>Gold</b>	2007 Stuttgart	All-around
<b>Gold</b>	2007 Stuttgart	Floor
Pan American Games		
<b>Gold</b>	2007 Rio de Janeiro	Team
<b>Gold</b>	2007 Rio de Janeiro	All-around
<b>Gold</b>	2007 Rio de Janeiro	Uneven bars
<b>Gold</b>	2007 Rio de Janeiro	Balance Beam
<b>Silver</b>	2007 Rio de Janeiro	Floor