

Name _____

SHANNON MILLER

"Queen Yankee"

The Italians fondly called Shannon Miller "Queen Yankee." It was 1990. She was in Italy to compete in gymnastics. It was a major event. Miller won first place in four events. Shannon won the all-around and the vault. She also won the balance beam and the floor exercise.

Shannon was born in Rolla, Missouri in 1977. She began training at the age of five. The uneven bars and the balance beam were her favorite events. In her teens, she was training eight hours a day. The training made her ready for the pressure of the 1992 Olympics. She won five events. She took home two silver and three bronze medals.

In 1996, she and six teammates competed in the Olympics. The team won a gold medal. Shannon won her own gold medal on the beam. After the games, she said, "I want to get a college education. I want to have a career and a family. I want to see what's out there, outside the gym."



In 1999, Shannon received a different kind of gold. The gold was a wedding ring. She married Dr. Chris Phillips. Her six 1996 Olympic teammates were in her wedding party.

Miller has won a total of 16 medals in her career. Seven of them were in the Olympics. Shannon has won more titles in gymnastics than any other U.S. woman. Gymnastics has been part of her life for a long time. In 2000, she stated, "I'm just not ready to give it up."

Name _____

SHANNON MILLER

Write the answers on the lines.

1. By what nickname did the Italians call Shannon? _____
2. Why was Shannon in Italy? _____
3. How many events did Miller win in Italy? _____
4. Where was Shannon born? _____
5. How many medals has Shannon won in her career? _____
6. How many of the medals were in the Olympics? _____
7. What kind of gold did Shannon receive in 1999? _____

The following statements are either true or false. Write true or false on the lines.

8. Shannon began training at the age of five. _____
9. In her teens, she was training 10 hours a day. _____
10. She won five events in the 1992 Olympics. _____
11. In 1999, she received a gold nose ring. _____
12. Her six Olympic teammates were at her birthday party _____
13. She married Dr. Chris Phillips. _____
14. Shannon has won very few titles in gymnastics. _____

Research: Use an encyclopedia. Find Friedrich Ludwig Jahn. He was born August 11, _____ of _____.