



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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WAUSAU, WI

SPORTSQUEST SPEED SKATERS THREE-PEAT AT 2010 US NATIONAL SHORT TRACK CHAMPIONSHIPS

The SportsQuest Team won both the Overall Medal Count and Gold Medal Count in Route to Victory

The SportsQuest speed skating team, who skate out of the Richmond Ice Zone (Richmond) and Skate Nation Plus (Glen Allen), entered the weekend as the reigning two-time National Champions in overall medal count in 2008 and 2009. They left the weekend having earned a third consecutive title in impressive fashion. The team earned 12 individual gold medals, more than double the second place team. The three-day competition, where every skater skates four distances, was held this year in Wausau, WI, and pits the best skaters in the nation against each other in an age based format.

The SportsQuest team was led by the trio of **Rachel Stewart** (age 16), **Sally Chea** (age 12) and **Thomas Hong** (age 11). All three were crowned as National Champions in their age group classification in dominating fashion. Stewart won the Junior Ladies with three gold medals after an early fall in the first event. Chea won the first three events in the Midget Ladies class and earned silver in the super-final. She also set a new National record in the 333m. Hong dominated the Midget Boys class, winning all four races, while setting US National Records at all four events for the 2nd year in a row.

Other skater highlights include **Christian No** (age 16), **Jin Seok Chea** (age 16), and **Landon Hatfield** (age 19). No earned one gold, two silver and one bronze medal. Chea, the older brother of Sally Chea, skated his way to a silver and bronze medal. Hatfield raced his way to silver medals in each of his four Intermediate Class events.

Both the men's and ladies relay teams earned medals as well. The women's team of **EunJi Jeong**, **Sonia Milan**, Stewart and **Katherine Ralston** raced to a silver medal in the final, while the men's team of Hatfield, **James Rodowsky**, Chea, **Alex Hopp** and No earned the bronze. Hatfield dislocated his ankle in his last individual race and No replaced him in the final, showing the depth of the SportsQuest team.

"While not skating this event, **Kimberly Derrick** led the sideline cheering for the team, her Bronze medal performance at the Vancouver Olympic games was inspirational to the team," said Steve Burton, SportsQuest CEO. In the team competition SportsQuest Speedskating dominated the medals. The team earned 28 total medals from 11 different individuals. "It was a total team effort," said Executive Director, Scott Koons. "I knew we would do well if the kids skated to their potential. They've been training hard and are well disciplined in their racing," he added.

ABOUT SPEED SKATING

Speed skating is a sport that is fun for all ages, ranging from 6 – 60. Boosting three of the best coaches in the country, everyone can learn how to enjoy speed skating. The program includes a recreational program, a youth development team and a high performance program.

Upcoming SportsQuest Events:

- SportsQuest, the owner of the Revolution, is hosting their official Ground Breaking for their East Campus on Wednesday, March 10 at 11:00 AM at 12772 Oak Lake Court, Midlothian. The event is open to the public and will include 17 synthetic turf sport fields (the largest in the US) and an outstanding outdoor festival park.
- Richmond Revolution the SportsQuest indoor pro football team will host its first home game on Saturday, March 13th at 7:05 against the Chicago Slaughter, which will be held at the Arthur Ashe Center.
- Join SportsQuest and the US Olympic Short Track team at their post-Olympic hall of Fame banquet, which will be held in Richmond on Saturday, May 1. Meet in person the Olympians that you enjoyed watching on TV.

For more information about the Speed Skating please contact:

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