



November 18, 2006

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FIGURE SKATERS FROM OMAHA ADVANCE TO JUNIOR NATIONALS FOR THE THIRD YEAR IN A ROW

Two figure skaters from Omaha have advanced to the U.S. Junior National Championships in Cleveland, OH, November 28 - December 2, 2006.

Katya Cope, 12, and her partner David Leatherwood, 17, became Regional Champions in the Intermediate Pairs event in the 2007 Southwestern Regional Championships in Denver, CO. Katya and David will represent Omaha, NE and Premier Figure Skating Club at the U.S. Junior National Championships for the third time in three years. This outstanding performance reinforces the success of the Premier FSC program in training competitive skaters.

Fourteen skaters from Premier FSC competed at the 2007 Southwestern Regional Championships. The Premier FSC Regional team included Katya Cope, Jessica Liu, Irene Pullum, Christine Hsu, Zach Culp, Ashlie Griffith, Misha Mitrofanov, Makayla Caumeran, David Leatherwood, Jennifer Leatherwood, Yoyo Ma, Dasha Kabanova and Laura Leatherwood and Jim Albright.

Twelve skaters are coached by Premier FSC coach Alexei Mantsorov, and periodically work with World and Olympic coach Valentin Nikolayev and choreographer Evgueni Nemirovskii.

The Ice Dance team of Laura Leatherwood and Jim Albright is coached by Premier FSC coach Sharon Sanders, and has also worked with World and Olympic coach Valentin Nikolayev. They were the only dance team to medal from Omaha. They placed 3rd in the Southwestern Regional Competition.

All the Premier FSC Regional competitors have shown excellence in performance, passion and commitment to their sport. Congratulations to each of these skaters, their coaches and families!