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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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

Three figure skaters from Omaha have advanced to the U.S. Junior National Championships in Westminster, CO, November 30 - December 3, 2005.

Katya Cope, 10, and her partner David Leatherwood, 16, won the silver medal in the Intermediate Pairs event in the 2006 Southwestern Regional Championships in Dallas, TX. Dasha Kabanova, 12, won the bronze medal in the Juvenile Girls Final round. David Leatherwood placed 5<sup>th</sup> in the Intermediate Boys Final round. Christine Hsu, 14, placed 7<sup>th</sup> in the Intermediate Ladies Final round and is an alternate to the Junior National team.

Katya, David, and Dasha will represent Omaha, NE and Premier Figure Skating Club at the U.S. Junior National Championships for the second time in two years. Last year they competed in the U.S. Junior National Championships in Jamestown, NY. This outstanding performance reinforces the success of the Premier FSC program in training competitive skaters.

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

Ten skaters from Premier FSC competed at the 2006 Southwestern Regional Championships, six out of ten advanced to a final round. The Premier FSC Regional team included Katya Cope, Sarah Kidd, Jessica Peters, Jessica Liu, Irene Pullum, Christine Hsu, Makayla Caumeran, David Leatherwood, Dasha Kabanova, and Shadi Feddin.

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!