

NEWS RELEASE

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LINEUPS ANNOUNCED FOR 2008 ISU GRAND PRIX OF FIGURE SKATING SERIES

– SKATE AMERICA ENTRANTS INCLUDE WORLD BRONZE MEDALIST JOHNNY WEIR, REIGNING U.S. CHAMPION MIRAI NAGASU –

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. (June 14, 2008) – The International Skating Union (ISU) and U.S. Figure Skating announced today the skater selections for the 2008 ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating Series, which will begin Oct. 24-26 with Skate America in Everett, Wash. The Grand Prix Series, which enters its 14th season, incorporates six prestigious international figure skating competitions as a unified point-scoring series that awards prize money to eligible skaters.

SKATE AMERICA

Skate America welcomes 18 top U.S. athletes among its international field. Those competing in Everett include World Junior champion Rachael Flatt, U.S. champion Mirai Nagasu, World bronze medalist Johnny Weir, five-time U.S. champion ice dancers Tanith Belbin and Ben Agosto, and U.S. champion pairs team Keauna McLaughlin and Rockne Brubaker. The third U.S. ice dancing team in Everett will be determined following the 2008 Lake Placid Ice Dance Championships, July 30-Aug. 2 in Lake Placid, N.Y.

For the complete list of international skaters competing in Everett, please visit www.isu.org.

The U.S. athletes competing in Skate America are as follows:

SKATE AMERICA – EVERETT, WASH. – OCT. 24-26			
LADIES	MEN	PAIRS	ICE DANCING
Kimmie Meissner	Evan Lysacek	Caitlin Yankowskas & John Coughlin	Tanith Belbin & Ben Agosto
Mirai Nagasu	Adam Rippon	Keauna McLaughlin & Rockne Brubaker	Emily Samuelson & Evan Bates
Rachael Flatt	Johnny Weir	Rena Inoue & John Baldwin	TBA USA

At the conclusion of the six events, athletes' points are totaled and the top six ladies, men, pairs and ice dancing teams are invited to compete at the ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating Final. This year the Grand Prix Final will be held Dec. 10-14 in Seoul, South Korea.

The ISU Grand Prix Series consists of the following six events:

Skate America	Everett, Wash.	Oct. 26-29
Skate Canada	Ottawa, Canada	Oct. 31-Nov. 2
Cup of China	Beijing, China	Nov. 6-9
Trophée Eric Bompard	Paris, France	Nov. 14-16
Cup of Russia	Moscow, Russia	Nov. 20-23
NHK Trophy	Tokyo, Japan	Nov. 27-30

A complete list of skater selections for the Grand Prix Series is available at the ISU web site, www.isu.org. The list of U.S. skater selections for the remaining Grand Prix Series events is below. Skaters are subject to change.

U.S. Skater Selections:

SKATE CANADA – OTTAWA, CANADA – OCT. 31-NOV. 2			
LADIES	MEN	PAIRS	ICE DANCERS
Alissa Czisny	Ryan Bradley	Keauna McLaughlin & Rockne Brubaker	Meryl Davis & Charlie White
Bebe Liang	Evan Lysacek	Jessica Rose Paetsch & Jon Nuss	Kimberly Navarro & Brent Bommentre
Caroline Zhang	Brandon Mroz		Jennifer Wester & Daniil Barantsev

CUP OF CHINA – BEIJING, CHINA – NOV. 6-9			
LADIES	MEN	PAIRS	ICE DANCERS
Katrina Hacker	Stephen Carriere	Brooke Castile & Ben Okolski	Tanith Belbin & Ben Agosto
Ashley Wagner	Jeremy Abbott	Amanda Evora & Mark Ladwig	

TROPHÉE ERIC BOMPARD – PARIS, FRANCE – NOV. 14-16			
LADIES	MEN	PAIRS	ICE DANCERS
Emily Hughes	Ryan Bradley	Tiffany Vise & Derek Trent	Jennifer Wester & Daniil Barantsev
Bebe Liang	Brandon Mroz		
Caroline Zhang			

CUP OF RUSSIA – MOSCOW, RUSSIA – NOV. 20-23			
LADIES	MEN	PAIRS	ICE DANCERS
Rachael Flatt	Jeremy Abbott	Brooke Castile & Ben Okolski	Meryl Davis & Charlie White
Kimmie Meissner	Adam Rippon		

NHK TROPHY – TOKYO, JAPAN – NOV. 27-30			
LADIES	MEN	PAIRS	ICE DANCERS
Katrina Hacker	Stephen Carriere	Rena Inoue & John Baldwin	Kimberly Navarro & Brent Bommentre
Mirai Nagasu	Johnny Weir	MeeRan Trombley & Laureano Ibarra	Emily Samuelson & Evan Bates
Ashley Wagner			

– U.S. Figure Skating –

U.S. Figure Skating is the national governing body for the sport of figure skating in the United States as recognized by the United States Olympic Committee and the International Skating Union. U.S. Figure Skating is comprised of more than 1,425 member clubs and Basic Skills Programs representing approximately 184,000 members. U.S. Figure Skating is charged with the development of the sport on all levels within the United States, including athletes, officials, sanctioning of events and exhibitions, and establishing the rules and guidelines by which the sport is governed.