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The 2006 WSSA World Sport Stacking Championships Draw the Fastest Competitors from around the World; Over 1,000 Competitors Set to Compete in the Ultimate Sport Stacking Championship

WHAT: The 4th Annual WSSA World Sport Stacking Championships, sanctioned by the Colorado-based World Sport Stacking Association (WSSA), are scheduled for Saturday, April 8, 2006, at the Denver Coliseum in Denver, Colo., from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. MST.

Sport stacking is an emerging individual and team sport where participants stack and unstack 12 specially designed high-tech cups (Speed Stacks(R)) in pre-determined sequences with lightning quickness. This unique sport promotes hand-eye coordination, ambidexterity, concentration and sportsmanship. Sport stacking competitions take place locally, nationally and internationally throughout the year, leading up to the World Championships. The competitors, generally aged 6-17, compete individually or in pairs (called "Doubles") against the clock for the fastest time or on relay teams in head-to-head competition.

WHO: Over 1,000 of the world's fastest sport stackers are expected to compete in the 2006 WSSA World Sport Stacking Championships. In addition to many American sport stackers from more than 20 states, international competitors will be representing Canada, Japan, Australia, South Africa, Germany and the U.K. Many world-class stackers will be hoping to secure their place in the world-record book. Nate Florea, a 12-year-old from Colorado Springs, will be looking to defend his championship time from last year's competition. Britain's fastest stacker, Kate Parker, will also be vying for top honors, as well as Miriam Christ and Timo Reuhl, who both recently claimed titles at the WSSA German National Sport Stacking Championships. Current world-record holder Emily Fox, age 18, will be on hand to see if any new competitors are able to break her current records.

EVENTS: Sport Stacking Competitive Events include Individuals, Doubles and 4-Person Team Relays in a variety of divisions, which include all ages. Stackers will race in the competitive sequences known as the 3-3-3, 3-6-3 and the Cycle. In addition to age divisions for kids, there are stacking opportunities for adults including Collegiate (19-24), Masters (25-59) and Seniors (60 and above). There is also a Special Stackers division for competitors with special needs. Visit www.worldsportstackingassociation.org.

HISTORY: Sport stacking (originally called "cup stacking") began in the early 1980s, but it wasn't until 1995 that sport stacking caught the attention of Bob Fox, a Colorado PE teacher, who held the state's first sport stacking tournament at his elementary school. With Bob's enthusiasm, the sport continued to grow throughout Colorado, and the tradition of an annual state tournament began in 1997. The

sport soon expanded to other states, and a regional tournament in 2002 attracted hundreds of stackers from Colorado, Texas, Oklahoma and Florida. Sport stacking is now practiced in all 50 states and has generated tremendous interest in countries from around the world. The 2006 WSSA World Sport Stacking Championships will be sanctioned by the World Sport Stacking Association for the fourth year in a row.

THE LINGO: Sport Stacking - An individual or team sport where participants stack and unstack 12 specially designed sport stacking cups in pre-determined sequences as fast as they can

Speed Stacks(R) - The official cups sanctioned by the WSSA for sport stacking competitions

A Sport Stacker - An athlete who plays or competes in sport stacking

World Sport Stacking Association (WSSA) - As the governing body for sport stacking, the WSSA standardizes rules and regulations, provides a uniform framework for sport stacking events and sanctions sport stacking competitions and records. Formed in 2001, the WSSA promotes the advancement of sport stacking worldwide.
(www.worldsportstackingassociation.org)

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