



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: February 2, 2007
CONTACT: Katy Sullivan, Director of Communications
(413) 458-1785, Katy@baystategames.org

FIGURE SKATERS ARE FIRST TO COMPETE IN THE 2007 BAY STATE WINTER GAMES

USFS Figure Skating kicked off the weekend competition

WILLIAMSTOWN, MA- Along with the frosty air, anticipation filled the Williams College Skating Rink today as figure skaters prepared for the opening day of the 2007 Bay State Winter Games. United States Figure Skating (USFS) skaters were the first to get a chance to show their talents to onlookers including their peers, judges, volunteers, families, and the Berkshire community. Clinching the Juvenile Girls Group 1 division was local athlete Lauren Lampiasi (North Adams). Katherine Dougherty (Walpole) was the winner for the Juvenile Girls Group 2, and Heather Luks (Oakham) took home gold in Juvenile Girls Group 3. The Intermediate level was next with Layla Siraj (Brookline) winning for the Ladies Short Program for Group 1, and Katie Landy (Medfield) coming up victorious for Group 2. The Novice level followed as Kiara Sonoda (Chicopee) placed first for the Ladies Short Program. Last year's gold medal winner for the Junior Ladies Long Program, Jaimee Fernald (Braintree), clinched top spot for the Junior Ladies Short Program. Finishing out the first day was Lindsey Fenton (Amherst) taking first for the Senior Ladies.

Equally as important as receiving a medal is being recognized with the Bay State Games New Balance Sportsmanship Initiative award. The 2007 Winter Games' first recipient was Caroline Henderson (Mansfield). Not only was Caroline praised for her helping a fellow skater during the competition, but she also received a bronze medal in the Junior Ladies Short Program.

USFS Figure Skating will be back in action Saturday, February 3 between 8:00am-3:00pm. For more information regarding the Bay State Winter Games as well as full results, please visit www.baystategames.org/winter.

~end~