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**WORLD SPORT CHICAGO NAMES 56 CHICAGO STUDENT-ATHLETES
WSC SCHOLARS**

2 Walter Payton College Prep student-athletes named WSC Scholars

CHICAGO – February 10, 2010 – World Sport Chicago, a non-profit organization devoted to promoting sport to the youth of Chicago, will name 56 Chicago student-athletes as the inaugural class of WSC Scholars at their Winter Olympics Kick-Off and Youth Sport Event on Thursday, February 11th. The program, to be held at the Ice Rink at Wrigley Field, will feature winter sport demonstrations and appearances by Olympians and Paralympians.

The WSC Scholars are an accomplished group of high school students representing 15 different Olympic sports and 27 public, private and parochial Chicago schools. Students were selected from a diverse group who applied last fall and were chosen based on their academic records, involvement in sport and their demonstrated commitment to the Olympic values of Excellence, Respect and Friendship.

WSC Scholars, including Walter Payton College Prep student-athletes Lydia Au (*Judo*) and Courtney Young (*Basketball*), will participate in the Chicago Scholars Mentoring Program and Kaplan Test Preparation and Admissions courses, the scholars will compete for one of sixteen \$10,000 renewable college scholarships supported by the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation. They will serve as program ambassadors and help promote Olympic values in their communities by sharing their stories as student-athletes, spreading the message of the Olympic values and emphasizing the value of higher education to younger students.

“We’re excited to welcome the first group of student athletes into the WSC Scholars Program,” says Scott Myers, Executive Director of World Sport Chicago. “With the support of our community partners we are encouraging students to work hard on the playing field and in the classroom and to continue those efforts as they pursue college degrees.”

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ABOUT WORLD SPORT CHICAGO:

World Sport Chicago believes that sport has the power to transform and is dedicated to helping children in Chicago find a sport to meet their interests and abilities. The organization is the legacy of Chicago 2016's Olympic and Paralympic Bid and promotes the Olympic ideals of fitness, education and well being by working with partner organizations to launch or expand sport programs for kids. WSC is working to introduce Chicago's youth to the fun and benefit of sports and the ideals of fair play, teamwork, respect and leadership.

Learn more at www.worldsportchicago.org

2011 scholarship applications and eligibility information will be posted in August 2010.

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