

For Immediate Release

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Ritenour Graduate Helps Team USA Win First-Ever Sled Hockey World Championship

May 18, 2009 – Ritenour graduate Steve Cash backstopped the United States National Sled Hockey team to its first ever World Championship over the weekend, shutting out Norway 1-0 on Saturday in Ostrava, Czech Republic. Cash – Team USA’s starting goaltender – turned away all 11 shots and was named player of the game.

The 5-5, 125 pound netminder started all five of Team USA’s games in the tournament and finished with a 4-1 record. Cash allowed only four goals in 235 minutes and earned two shutouts. He stopped 94 percent of the shots he faced and had a 0.80 goals against average.

On Thursday, May 14, Cash led Team USA to an upset victory over tournament favorite Canada in a shootout, stopping 22 of 23 shots and earning player of the game honors in a 2-1 victory.

Cash is the top sled hockey goaltender in the country and the favorite to be Team USA’s starting goaltender in the 2010 Paralympic Games in Vancouver, B.C. He has been a member of the U.S. national squad since 2005. Cash helped team USA earn a bronze medal at the 2006 Paralympic Winter Games in Torino, Italy and a bronze medal in the 2008 International Paralympic Ice Sled Hockey World Championships in Marlborough, Mass.

This year he has traveled the world, appearing in all of Team USA’s games. Prior to the World Championships in the Czech Republic, he played in an exhibition series against Canada in Park City, Utah and Prince George, British Columbia – and in the Japan Paralympic Ice Sled Hockey International Match in Asahikawa, Japan.

The 20-year old from Overland, Mo. had part of his right leg amputated when he was only three years old due to a malignant bone cancer called osteo sarcoma. A 2007 Ritenour High School graduate, Cash trains with the River City Rage Sled Hockey team.

Ice Sled Hockey is the Paralympic version of Ice Hockey. Since its debut on the Paralympic Programme at the Lillehammer 1994 Winter Paralympics, it has quickly become one of the largest attractions for spectators at the Winter Paralympics. It is fast-paced, highly physical and played by male athletes with a physical disability in the lower part of the body.

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