



## Media Release

For immediate release

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# Sask Sport Inc. Announces May Athlete of the Month Award Nominees

The following athletes have been nominated for the Sask Sport Inc. May Athlete of the Month Award. The nominees are:

- **Simon Bairu, Saskatchewan Athletics.** Bairu placed 5<sup>th</sup> in the men's 10,000m race at the Payton Jordan International Classic in Palo Alto, CA, establishing a new Canadian Senior Record. His performance currently places him 10<sup>th</sup> in the IAAF World Rankings. Bairu is now preparing to compete at the Canadian Senior Championships in Toronto on July 28.
- **Team Saskatchewan Male, Saskatchewan Hockey Association.** Team Saskatchewan Male won 1<sup>st</sup> place at the 2010 National Aboriginal Hockey Championships held in Ottawa, Ontario. There were 10 other teams in the competition from nine other provinces.
- **Curtis Graves, Gymnastics Saskatchewan.** Graves began the month competing in the Western Canadian Championships, where he won first in the high bar event and 11<sup>th</sup> all around in the junior men's category. At the Provincial Gymnastics Championships in Regina, he finished 1<sup>st</sup> all around in the junior male category. He finished the month by competing in the Canadian Championships in Kamloops, BC. where he placed first in the high bar and 11<sup>th</sup> all around.
- **Sara Thibeault, Saskatchewan Baton Twirling Association.** Thibeault competed in the Saskatchewan Provincial Championships and placed first in all of her events (freestyle, pairs, medley, solo, 2-baton, 3-baton, and solo dance). She also competed at the National Team Trails and placed first in freestyle and pairs (along with her partner Kayla McKinnon). As a result of this placing, she will compete with the Canadian National Team at Worlds in Norway this July.
- **Mike Vincent and Ivan English, Canoe Kayak Saskatchewan.** Vincent and English competed in the General Clinton Canoe Regatta in Cooperstown, New York, where they finished 4<sup>th</sup> out of a field of 46 teams. They were the top Canadian team. The open race featured over 100 paddlers from Canada and the U.S. and is the first stop among the prestigious Triple Crown.

The recipient will be named later this week. For more information, contact Pat Rediger at (306) 780-9307 or email [prediger@sasksport.sk.ca](mailto:prediger@sasksport.sk.ca). For information regarding the Athlete of the Month Awards program, including previous nominees and recipients, visit [www.sasksport.sk.ca/awards.php](http://www.sasksport.sk.ca/awards.php)