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Future Olympic Gymnasts to Perform at Coca-Cola Global Games

DALLAS, TX- Local gymnasts Carly Patterson, 16 of Dallas, and Hollie Vise, 16 of Allen, who have been invited to attend the U.S. Olympic Gymnastics Team Selection Camp, will perform during halftime of the game between the Chinese National Team, led by Yao Ming, and the Dallas Mavericks Summer League Team, Saturday, July 3, at 8:00 p.m.

Patterson and Vise are among the strongest contenders for a spot on the six-member U.S. Olympic Women's Gymnastics Team, which will be announced July 18th. The six-member team will vie for a gold medal at this summer's Olympic Games in Athens, Greece.

Patterson, placed third overall at the 2004 U.S. Olympic Gymnastics Trials in Anaheim, California, and also was a member of the gold medal U.S. Women's World Championships Team, in which she won the all-around silver medal last August. In February of 2004, Patterson defended her VISA American Cup title, claiming gold on all four events. Last month she shared the National Champion All-Around title with Courtney Kupets at the U.S. Championships in Nashville, Tennessee.

Vise, who suffered a back injury earlier this year, bounced back with strong showings on the uneven bars and balance beam at the Olympic Trials in Anaheim. Both Carly and Hollie were members of the 2003 World Championships where Vise shared the uneven bars title. Earlier in 2003, Vise became the U.S. balance beam champion and was co-runner up for the U.S. National Champion title.

Both athletes train at the World Olympic Gymnastics Academy (WOGA) in Plano with world-renowned coaches Evgeny Marchenko and Natasha Boyarskaya. Also performing a dance routine on Saturday will be 16 of WOGA's elite and upper level gymnasts.

Tickets:

Tickets for this year's event can be purchased online at the official tournament website, www.globalgamesbasketball.com, or by calling 1-800-595-4TIX (4849). Ticket prices are \$5 for children & matinee games (before 5:00 pm) and \$10 for adults. Weekly passes are \$20 for children and \$35 for adults. Tickets will also be available for sale at the Southern Methodist University box office throughout the tournament. The box office will open one hour prior to the tip-off of the first game each day.

About the tournament:

The Coca-Cola Global Games is the preeminent international basketball tournament played in the United States. The tournament annually brings the world's top athletes, ages 21 & under, to Dallas. For the fifth year in a row, the event will take place at Moody Coliseum on the campus of, SMU. The competition kicks off June 27th and culminates with the medal round on July 3, 2004.

The fifth anniversary of the tournament will feature men's junior national teams from USA, China, Serbia-Montenegro, Canada, Puerto Rico, Lithuania, Ukraine, Russia, Argentina and Croatia. The list of alums that have played in the event reads like a who's who of the basketball community. Among those who have competed in the tournament are: NBA All-Rookie Team member Chris Bosh of the Toronto Raptors, Seattle SuperSonics teammates Luke Ridnour, Nick Collison and Vladimir Radmanovic, Carlos Boozer of the Cleveland Cavaliers, Detroit Pistons rookie Darko Milicic, Houston Rockets All-Star Yao Ming and 2004 collegiate All-Americans Lawrence Roberts, Jameer Nelson, Luke Jackson, and Chris Duhon.

For information about the Coca-Cola Global Games including box scores from each day, rosters, schedules and tickets, please visit our website at www.globalgamesbasketball.com.