

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## **Local Student Travels to Calgary, Canada to Compete in International Competition**

Leesburg, Va., June 19, 2009 – This year, Adam Bierschbach, of Albany, Minn., and Adam Wiechmann, of Melrose, Minn., will represent the United States in Calgary, Canada in the mechatronics competition in the WorldSkills Competition. Both Bierschbach and Wiechmann attend Alexandria Technical College. They will compete as members of the United States “WorldTeam.” The 40<sup>th</sup> international event will be held September 1-7, 2009.

“I feel very fortunate to have the opportunity to represent the United States”, said Bierschbach. “I can only imagine what kind of doors will be opened by competing in WorldSkills,” added Wiechmann.

Every two years, hundreds of young people from 51 member countries or regions compete in the prestigious WorldSkills Competition. Member countries include: Japan, Germany, Saudi Arabia, Australia, Brazil, and many others. Considered “the best of the best” these contestants compete for four days in 45 occupational skill areas from economic sectors including manufacturing, information technology, transportation, construction and services. Accompanied by their teachers, trainers and industry technical committee experts, these young people compete before the public in contests that are run by and judged by industry using demanding international standards.

Over its 55-year history, WorldSkills International has come to symbolize the pinnacle of excellence in technical training. This year, in Calgary, more than 1,000 competitors will test their skills. Five thousand international experts, delegates and judges from around the world and 3,000 volunteers will attend. A total of 150,000 student and public spectators will attend the competition at Stampede Park situated on 193 acres with 800,000 square feet of competition space. For more information about the competition go to:  
<http://www.worldskills.org>.

Bierschbach and Wiechmann are members of SkillsUSA, the organization that represents the United States in the WorldSkills Competition. Both earned the right to be a member of WorldTeam by winning local, district and national contests in mechatronics under the SkillsUSA program. Competitors must be

under the age of 25 for the Mechatronics competition. All others are under the age of 23. There are 16 members of WorldTeam. Other occupational areas in which the United States will compete include: Autobody Repair, Automobile Technology, Car Painting, Cabinetmaking, CNC Milling, CNC Turning, Cooking, Hairdressing, Industrial Electronics, T/PC Networking, Plumbing, Printing, Refrigeration and Welding.

Organizations supporting United States' participation in the WorldSkills Competition include Lowe's Companies, Inc., FESTO Corporation and Minnesota SkillsUSA.

SkillsUSA is a partnership of students, teachers and industry working together to ensure America has a skilled work force. The organization helps students excel by augmenting their technical education with training in leadership, team working skills and in citizenship and character development. SkillsUSA serves more than 300,000 students and instructors annually. The organization has 16,693 teachers and school administrators who serve as professional SkillsUSA members and instructors. More than 1,100 businesses, industry and labor sponsors actively support SkillsUSA at the national level through financial aid, in-kind contributions, and involvement of their people in SkillsUSA activities. Many more work directly with state associations and local chapters.

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## **Local Student Travels to Calgary, Canada to Compete in International Competition**

Leesburg, Va., June 19, 2009 – This year, Fernando DeLaGarza, of Meridian, Idaho, and a student at Dehryl A. Dennis PTEC-Boise in Meridian, will represent the United States in Calgary, Canada in the CNC Milling competition in the WorldSkills Competition. DeLaGarza will compete as a member of the United States “WorldTeam.” The 40<sup>th</sup> international event will be held September 1-7, 2009.

“It is a great honor to be representing the United States as a member of the SkillsUSA WorldTeam”, said DeLaGarza. “It is also special for me since I did not grow-up in the United States. I moved here while in high school. I think that I would not have been able to have the opportunity to learn so much about machining if my family had not moved to the United States”, he added.

Every two years, hundreds of young people from 51 member countries or regions compete in the prestigious WorldSkills Competition. Member countries include: Japan, Germany, Saudi Arabia, Australia, Brazil, and many others. Considered “the best of the best” these contestants compete for four days in 45 occupational skill areas from economic sectors including manufacturing, information technology, transportation, construction and services. Accompanied by their teachers, trainers and industry technical committee experts, these young people compete before the public in contests that are run by and judged by industry using demanding international standards.

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DeLaGarza is a member of SkillsUSA, the organization that represents the United States in the WorldSkills Competition. DeLaGarza earned the right to be a

member of WorldTeam by winning local, district and national contests in CNC Milling under the SkillsUSA program. Competitors must be under the age of 23. There are 16 members of WorldTeam. Other occupational areas in which the United States will compete include: Autobody Repair, Automobile Technology, Car Painting, Cabinetmaking, CNC Turning, Cooking, Hairdressing, Industrial Electronics, IT/PC Networking, Mechatronics (two-person team), Plumbing, Printing, Refrigeration and Welding.

Organizations supporting United States' participation in the WorldSkills Competition include Lowe's Companies, Inc., Haas Automation, Inc.

SkillsUSA is a partnership of students, teachers and industry working together to ensure America has a skilled work force. The organization helps students excel by augmenting their technical education with training in leadership, team working skills and in citizenship and character development. SkillsUSA serves more than 300,000 students and instructors annually. The organization has 16,693 teachers and school administrators who serve as professional SkillsUSA members and instructors. More than 1,100 businesses, industry and labor sponsors actively support SkillsUSA at the national level through financial aid, in-kind contributions, and involvement of their people in SkillsUSA activities. Many more work directly with state associations and local chapters.

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## **Local Student Travels to Calgary, Canada to Compete in International Competition**

Leesburg, Va., June 19, 2009 – This year, Kinzie Doll, of Kansas City, Mo., and a student at DeVry University, will represent the United States in Calgary, Canada in the T/PC Networking competition in the WorldSkills Competition. Doll will compete as a member of the United States “WorldTeam.” The 40<sup>th</sup> international event will be held September 1-7, 2009.

“Representing the United States of America as a part of the SkillsUSA WorldTeam is truly a dream come true,” said Doll. “It is a great honor and I’m looking forward to the competition”, she added.

Every two years, hundreds of young people from 51 member countries or regions compete in the prestigious WorldSkills Competition. Member countries include: Japan, Germany, Saudi Arabia, Australia, Brazil, and many others. Considered “the best of the best” these contestants compete for four days in 45 occupational skill areas from economic sectors including manufacturing, information technology, transportation, construction and services. Accompanied by their teachers, trainers and industry technical committee experts, these young people compete before the public in contests that are run by and judged by industry using demanding international standards.

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<http://www.worldskills.org>.

Doll is a member of SkillsUSA, the organization that represents the United States in the WorldSkills Competition. Doll earned the right to be a member of WorldTeam by winning local, district and national contests in T/PC Networking under the SkillsUSA program. Competitors must be under the age of 23. There are 16 members of WorldTeam. Other occupational areas in which the United

States will compete include: Autobody Repair, Automobile Technology, Car Painting, Cabinetmaking, CNC Milling, CNC Turning, Cooking, Hairdressing, Industrial Electronics, Mechatronics (two-person team), Plumbing, Printing, Refrigeration and Welding.

Organizations supporting United States' participation in the WorldSkills Competition include Lowe's Companies, Inc. and Cisco Systems.

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## **Local Student Travels to Calgary, Canada to Compete in International Competition**

Leesburg, Va., June 19, 2009 – This year, Jack Frederick, of Wichita, Ka., and a student at Pittsburg State University, will represent the United States in Calgary, Canada in the automobile technology competition in the WorldSkills Competition. Frederick will compete as a member of the United States “WorldTeam.” The 40<sup>th</sup> international event will be held September 1-7, 2009.

“Representing the United States of America as a part of the SkillsUSA WorldTeam is truly a dream come true”, said Frederick. “The many hours of training for contests and preparing for automotive related events along with the support of family, friends and teachers alike are paying off. I am so very proud to be an American and I am a strong advocate of SkillsUSA and career and technical education. To be able to represent both at the WorldSkills contest is everything that I could ask for”, he added.

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Frederick is a member of SkillsUSA, the organization that represents the United States in the WorldSkills Competition. Frederick earned the right to be a member of WorldTeam by winning local, district and national contests in automobile technology under the SkillsUSA program. Competitors must be under the age of 23. There are 16 members of WorldTeam. Other occupational areas in which the United States will compete include: Autobody Repair, Cabinetmaking, Car Painting, CNC Milling, CNC Turning, Cooking, Hairdressing, Industrial Electronics, IT/PC Networking, Mechatronics (two-person team), Plumbing, Printing, Refrigeration and Welding.

Organizations supporting United States' participation in the WorldSkills Competition include: Lowe's Companies, Inc., Automotive Service Excellence (ASE), Automotive Youth Educational Systems, Chrysler, LLC, General Motors Corp., Hunter Engineering, National Auto Service Technical Committee, Pittsburg State University, Raytheon, Snap-on Tools Inc. and Toyota Motor Sales U.S.A. Inc.

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## **Local Student Travels to Calgary, Canada to Compete in International Competition**

Leesburg, Va., June 19, 2009 – This year, Craig Growney, of East Rutherford, N.J., and a student at the Culinary Institute of America in New York, will represent the United States in Calgary, Canada in the cooking competition in the WorldSkills Competition. Growney will compete as a member of the United States “WorldTeam.” The 40<sup>th</sup> international event will be held September 1-7, 2009.

“I am very proud and honored to be representing the United States of America at the 2009 WorldSkills competition”, Growney said. “I know that I am among an elite group who has been hand- selected to compete at such a high skill level”, he added.

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<http://www.worldskills.org>.

Growney is a member of SkillsUSA, the organization that represents the United States in the WorldSkills Competition. Growney earned the right to be a member of WorldTeam by winning local, district and national contests in cooking under

the SkillsUSA program. Competitors must be under the age of 23. There are 16 members of WorldTeam. Other occupational areas in which the United States will compete include: Autobody Repair, Automobile Technology, Car Painting, Cabinetmaking, CNC Milling, CNC Turning, Hairdressing, Industrial Electronics, IT/PC Networking, Mechatronics (two-person team), Plumbing, Printing, Refrigeration and Welding.

Organizations supporting United States' participation in the WorldSkills Competition include Lowe's Companies, Inc., Culinary Institute of America, Joan Dalianis Foundation Inc. and New Jersey SkillsUSA.

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## **Local Student Travels to Calgary, Canada to Compete in International Competition**

Leesburg, Va., June 19, 2009 – This year, Ben Janke, of Marshall, Wis., and a graduate of Madison Area Technical College, will represent the United States in Calgary, Canada in the car painting competition in the WorldSkills Competition. Janke will compete as a member of the United States “WorldTeam.” The 40<sup>th</sup> international event will be held September 1-7, 2009.

“I am extremely privileged to be representing the USA and the State of Wisconsin in Calgary”, Janke said. “This is a once in a lifetime opportunity and I hope to be able to increase my skills over the next few months as I practice and train for the competition to put the USA on the podium in Canada. I can’t thank everyone enough that is helping me be successful in Calgary”, he added

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<http://www.worldskills.org>.

Janke is a member of SkillsUSA, the organization that represents the United States in the WorldSkills Competition. Janke earned the right to be a member of WorldTeam by winning local, district and national contests in car painting under

the SkillsUSA program. Competitors must be under the age of 23. There are 16 members of WorldTeam. Other occupational areas in which the United States will compete include: Autobody Repair, Automobile Technology, Cabinetmaking, CNC Milling, CNC Turning, Cooking, Hairdressing, Industrial Electronics, IT/PC Networking, Mechatronics (two-person team), Plumbing, Printing, Refrigeration and Welding.

Organizations supporting United States' participation in the WorldSkills Competition include: Lowe's Companies, Inc., Automotive Service Excellence (ASE), Kraftsman Auto Body Inc., Snap-on Tools Inc. and the Society of Collision Repair Specialists.

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## **Local Student Travels to Calgary, Canada to Compete in International Competition**

Leesburg, Va., June 19, 2009 – This year, Hayden LeJeune of Baton Rouge, La, and a student at Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge., will represent the United States in Calgary, Canada in the Industrial Electronics competition in the WorldSkills Competition. LeJeune will compete as a member of the United States “WorldTeam.” The 40<sup>th</sup> international event will be held September 1-7, 2009.

“Representing the United States of America as a part of the SkillsUSA WorldTeam is truly a dream come true”, said LeJeune. “Without motivation, support from my family and fellow classmates, and a little pressure from my advisor to be the best I can be, I wouldn’t be where I am today. I wouldn’t be a National Champion. Yet here I am”, he added.

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LeJeune is a member of SkillsUSA, the organization that represents the United States in the WorldSkills Competition. LeJeune earned the right to be a member

of WorldTeam by winning local, district and national contests in Industrial Electronic under the SkillsUSA program. Competitors must be under the age of 23. There are 16 members of WorldTeam. Other occupational areas in which the United States will compete include: Autobody Repair, Automobile Technology, Car Painting, Cabinetmaking, CNC Milling, CNC Turning, Cooking, Hairdressing, IT/PC Networking, Mechatronics (two-person team), Plumbing, Printing, Refrigeration and Welding.

Organizations supporting United States' participation in the WorldSkills Competition include Louisiana SkillsUSA and Romeo Engineering and Technology Center.

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Leesburg, Va., June 19, 2009 – This year, Jennifer Miaczynski, of Bourbonnais, Ill., and a student at Kankakee Area Career Center, will represent the United States in Calgary, Canada in the hairdressing competition in the WorldSkills Competition. Miaczynski will compete as a member of the United States “WorldTeam.” The 40<sup>th</sup> international event will be held September 1-7, 2009.

“Representing the United States of America as a part of the SkillsUSA WorldTeam is truly a dream come true”, said Miaczynski. “Most of all, it is the major highlight of my career and technical education and training”, she added.

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Miaczynski is a member of SkillsUSA, the organization that represents the United States in the WorldSkills Competition. Miaczynski earned the right to be a member of WorldTeam by winning local, district and national contests in hairdressing under the SkillsUSA program. Competitors must be under the age of 23. There are 16 members of WorldTeam. Other occupational areas in which

the United States will compete include: Autobody Repair, Automobile Technology, Car Painting, Cabinetmaking, CNC Milling, CNC Turning, Cooking, Industrial Electronics, IT/PC Networking, Mechatronics (two-person team), Plumbing, Printing, Refrigeration and Welding.

Organizations supporting United States' participation in the WorldSkills Competition include Lowe's Companies, Inc. and Pivot Point International.

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Leesburg, Va., June 19, 2009 – This year, Amela Mujkic, of Clinton Township, Mich., and a student at Ferris State University, Big Rapids, Mich., will represent the United States in Calgary, Canada in the printing competition in the WorldSkills Competition. Mujkic will compete as a member of the United States “WorldTeam.” The 40<sup>th</sup> international event will be held September 1-7, 2009.

“Representing the United States of America as a part of the SkillsUSA WorldTeam is truly a dream come true”, said Mujkic. “The many hours of training for contests and preparing for printing related events along with the support of family, friends and teachers alike are paying off. I am so very proud to be an American and I am a strong advocate of SkillsUSA and career and technical education. To be able to able to represent both at the WorldSkills contest is everything that I could ask for”, she added.

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Mujkic is a member of SkillsUSA, the organization that represents the United States in the WorldSkills Competition. Mujkic earned the right to be a member of WorldTeam by winning local, district and national contests in printing under the SkillsUSA program. Competitors must be under the age of 23. There are 16 members of WorldTeam. Other occupational areas in which the United States will compete include: Autobody Repair, Automobile Technology, Cabinetmaking, Car Painting, CNC Milling, CNC Turning, Cooking, Hairdressing, Industrial Electronics, IT/PC Networking, Mechatronics (two-person team), Plumbing, Refrigeration and Welding.

Organizations supporting United States' participation in the WorldSkills Competition include: Lowe's Companies Inc., Ferris State University and the Graphic Arts Education and Research Foundation.

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Leesburg, Va., June 19, 2009 – This year, Scott Raymond, of East Hampton, Mass., and a student at the Universal Technical Institute, will represent the United States in Calgary, Canada in the autobody repair competition in the WorldSkills Competition. Raymond will compete as a member of the United States “WorldTeam.” The 40<sup>th</sup> international event will be held September 1-7, 2009.

“It is a great honor to be representing the United States as a member of the SkillsUSA WorldTeam”, said Raymond. “I joined SkillsUSA my sophomore year in high school and I was always drawn to the challenge of competition. It’s an amazing honor that still seems a little unreal”, he added.

Every two years, hundreds of young people from 51 member countries or regions compete in the prestigious WorldSkills Competition. Member countries include: Japan, Germany, Saudi Arabia, Australia, Brazil, and many others. Considered “the best of the best” these contestants compete for four days in 45 occupational skill areas from economic sectors including manufacturing, information technology, transportation, construction and services. Accompanied by their teachers, trainers and industry technical committee experts, these young people compete before the public in contests that are run by and judged by industry using demanding international standards.

Over its 55-year history, WorldSkills International has come to symbolize the pinnacle of excellence in technical training. This year, in Calgary, more than 1,000 competitors will test their skills. Five thousand international experts, delegates and judges from around the world and 3,000 volunteers will attend. A total of 150,000 student and public spectators will attend the competition at Stampede Park situated on 193 acres with 800,000 square feet of competition space. For more information about the competition go to: <http://www.worldskills.org>.

Raymond is a member of SkillsUSA, the organization that represents the United States in the WorldSkills Competition. Raymond earned the right to

be a member of WorldTeam by winning local, district and national contests in autobody repair under the SkillsUSA program. Competitors must be under the age of 23. There are 16 members of WorldTeam. Other occupational areas in which the United States will compete include: Automobile Technology, Cabinetmaking, Car Painting, CNC Milling, CNC Turning, Cooking, Hairdressing, Industrial Electronics, IT/PC Networking, Mechatronics (two-person team), Plumbing, Printing, Refrigeration and Welding.

Organizations supporting United States' participation in the WorldSkills Competition include: Lowe's Companies Inc., Automotive Service Excellence (ASE), Kraftsman Auto Body Inc., Snap-on Tools Inc. and the Society of Collision Repair Specialists.

SkillsUSA is a partnership of students, teachers and industry working together to ensure America has a skilled work force. The organization helps students excel by augmenting their technical education with training in leadership, team working skills and in citizenship and character development. SkillsUSA serves more than 300,000 students and instructors annually. The organization has 16,693 teachers and school administrators who serve as professional SkillsUSA members and instructors. More than 1,100 businesses, industry and labor sponsors actively support SkillsUSA at the national level through financial aid, in-kind contributions, and involvement of their people in SkillsUSA activities. Many more work directly with state associations and local chapters.

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## **Local Student Travels to Calgary, Canada to Compete in International Competition**

Leesburg, Va., June 19, 2009 – This year, Leroy Rogers, of West Allis, Wis., and a student at M.A.T.C. College, will represent the United States in Calgary, Canada in the plumbing competition in the WorldSkills Competition. Rogers will compete as a member of the United States “WorldTeam.” The 40<sup>th</sup> international event will be held September 1-7, 2009.

“Representing the United States of America as a part of the SkillsUSA WorldTeam is truly a dream come true”, said Rogers. “This is an amazing opportunity to see the technical trades at a global level”, he added.

Every two years, hundreds of young people from 51 member countries or regions compete in the prestigious WorldSkills Competition. Member countries include: Japan, Germany, Saudi Arabia, Australia, Brazil, and many others. Considered “the best of the best” these contestants compete for four days in 45 occupational skill areas from economic sectors including manufacturing, information technology, transportation, construction and services. Accompanied by their teachers, trainers and industry technical committee experts, these young people compete before the public in contests that are run by and judged by industry using demanding international standards.

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<http://www.worldskills.org>.

Rogers is a member of SkillsUSA, the organization that represents the United States in the WorldSkills Competition. Rogers earned the right to be a member of WorldTeam by winning local, district and national contests in plumbing under the SkillsUSA program. Competitors must be under the age of 23. There are 16 members of WorldTeam. Other occupational areas in which the United States

will compete include: Autobody Repair, Automobile Technology, Car Painting, Cabinetmaking, CNC Milling, CNC Turning, Cooking, Hairdressing, Industrial Electronics, IT/PC Networking, Mechatronics (two-person team), Printing, Refrigeration and Welding.

Organizations supporting United States' participation in the WorldSkills Competition include Lowe's Companies, Inc., United Association of Journeymen and Apprentices of the Plumbing and Pipefitting Industry.

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## **Local Student Travels to Calgary, Canada to Compete in International Competition**

Leesburg, Va., June 19, 2009 – This year, Ryan Rutherford, of Stickney, Ill., and a student at M.A.T.C. College, will represent the United States in Calgary, Canada in the refrigeration competition in the WorldSkills Competition. Rutherford will compete as a member of the United States “WorldTeam.” The 40<sup>th</sup> international event will be held September 1-7, 2009.

“Representing the United States of America as a part of the SkillsUSA WorldTeam is truly a dream come true”, said Rutherford. “I hope to show that the technical skills in the United States are equal to, if not superior, to the rest of the world”, he added.

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Rutherford is a member of SkillsUSA, the organization that represents the United States in the WorldSkills Competition. Rutherford earned the right to be a member of WorldTeam by winning local, district and national contests in refrigeration under the SkillsUSA program. Competitors must be under the age

of 23. There are 16 members of WorldTeam. Other occupational areas in which the United States will compete include: Autobody Repair, Automobile Technology, Car Painting, Cabinetmaking, CNC Milling, CNC Turning, Cooking, Hairdressing, Industrial Electronics, IT/PC Networking, Mechatronics (two-person team), Plumbing, Printing, and Welding.

Organizations supporting United States' participation in the WorldSkills Competition include Lowe's Companies, Inc., Carrier, Refrigeration Service Engineers Society and the United Association of Journeymen and Apprentices of the Plumbing and Pipefitting Industry.

SkillsUSA is a partnership of students, teachers and industry working together to ensure America has a skilled work force. The organization helps students excel by augmenting their technical education with training in leadership, team-working skills and in citizenship and character development. SkillsUSA serves more than 300,000 students and instructors annually. The organization has 16,693 teachers and school administrators who serve as professional SkillsUSA members and instructors. More than 1,100 businesses, industry and labor sponsors actively support SkillsUSA at the national level through financial aid, in-kind contributions, and involvement of their people in SkillsUSA activities. Many more work directly with state associations and local chapters.

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## **Local Student Travels to Calgary, Canada to Compete in International Competition**

Leesburg, Va., June 19, 2009 – This year, Josef Schwarzer, of Leonard, Mich., and a student at Romeo Engineering and Technology in Washington, will represent the United States in Calgary, Canada in the CNC Turning competition in the WorldSkills Competition. Schwarzer will compete as a member of the United States “WorldTeam.” The 40<sup>th</sup> international event will be held September 1-7, 2009.

“Representing the United States of America as a part of the SkillsUSA WorldTeam is truly a dream come true”, said Schwarzer. “The many hours of training for contests and preparing for events along with the support of family, friends and teachers alike are paying off. I am so very proud to be an American and I am a strong advocate of SkillsUSA and career and technical education. To be able to represent both at the WorldSkills contest is everything that I could ask for”, he added.

Every two years, hundreds of young people from 51 member countries or regions compete in the prestigious WorldSkills Competition. Member countries include: Japan, Germany, Saudi Arabia, Australia, Brazil, and many others. Considered “the best of the best” these contestants compete for four days in 45 occupational skill areas from economic sectors including manufacturing, information technology, transportation, construction and services. Accompanied by their teachers, trainers and industry technical committee experts, these young people compete before the public in contests that are run by and judged by industry using demanding international standards.

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Schwarzer is a member of SkillsUSA, the organization that represents the United States in the WorldSkills Competition. Schwarzer earned the right to be a member of WorldTeam by winning local, district and national contests in CNC Turning under the SkillsUSA program. Competitors must be under the age of 23. There are 16 members of WorldTeam. Other occupational areas in which the United States will compete include: Autobody Repair, Automobile Technology, Car Painting, Cabinetmaking, CNC Milling, Cooking, Hairdressing, Industrial Electronics, IT/PC Networking, Mechatronics (two-person team), Plumbing, Printing, Refrigeration and Welding.

Organizations supporting United States' participation in the WorldSkills Competition include Lowe's Companies, Inc. and Haas Automation, Inc.

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## **Local Student Travels to Calgary, Canada to Compete in International Competition**

Leesburg, Va., June 19, 2009 – This year, Kyle Wegman, of Parkersburg, Pa., and a student at Stevens College of Technology, will represent the United States in Calgary, Canada in the cabinetmaking competition in the WorldSkills Competition. Wegman will compete as a member of the United States “WorldTeam.” The 40<sup>th</sup> international event will be held September 1-7, 2009.

“I am honored to be representing the United States in WorldSkills”, said Wegman. “I honestly didn’t see myself going this far in the competition, but now that I will be competing at an international level, I am very excited. The size of this competition is unbelievable. I am looking forward to networking with other people from all over the world”, he added.

Every two years, hundreds of young people from 51 member countries or regions compete in the prestigious WorldSkills Competition. Member countries include: Japan, Germany, Saudi Arabia, Australia, Brazil, and many others. Considered “the best of the best” these contestants compete for four days in 45 occupational skill areas from economic sectors including manufacturing, information technology, transportation, construction and services. Accompanied by their teachers, trainers and industry technical committee experts, these young people compete before the public in contests that are run by and judged by industry using demanding international standards.

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Wegman is a member of SkillsUSA, the organization that represents the United States in the WorldSkills Competition. Wegman earned the right to be a member of WorldTeam by winning local, district and national contests in cabinetmaking under the SkillsUSA program. Competitors must be under the age of 23. There are 16 members of WorldTeam. Other occupational areas in which the United States will compete include: Autobody Repair, Automobile Technology, Car Painting, CNC Milling, CNC Turning, Cooking, Hairdressing, Industrial Electronics, IT/PC Networking, Mechatronics (two-person team), Plumbing, Printing, Refrigeration and Welding.

Organizations supporting United States' participation in the WorldSkills Competition include: Lowe's Companies, Inc., Pennsylvania SkillsUSA, Stanley Community College and Thadeus Stevens Foundation.

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## **Local Student Travels to Calgary, Canada to Compete in International Competition**

Leesburg, Va., July 10, 2009 – This year, Joe Young, of Heartland, Mich., and a student of Hartland High School, will represent the United States in Calgary, Canada in the welding competition in the WorldSkills Competition. Young will compete as a member of the United States “WorldTeam.” The 40<sup>th</sup> international event will be held September 1-7, 2009.

“It is a great honor for me to represent the United States at the World Skills Competition,” said Young. “My goal is to win the gold,” he added.

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<http://www.worldskills.org>. and  
<http://www.skillsusa.org/compete/worldteam.shtml>.

Young is a member of SkillsUSA, the organization that represents the United States in the WorldSkills Competition. Young earned the right to be a member of WorldTeam by winning local, district and national contests in welding under the SkillsUSA program. Competitors must be under the age of 23. There are 16 members of WorldTeam. Other occupational areas in which the United States will compete include: Autobody Repair, Automobile Technology, Cabinetmaking, Car Painting, CNC Milling, CNC Turning, Cooking, Hairdressing, Industrial Electronics, IT/PC Networking, Mechatronics (two-person team), Plumbing, Printing and Refrigeration.

Organizations supporting United States' participation in the WorldSkills Competition include: Lowe's Companies, Inc., American Welding Society, Lincoln Electric Co., Miller Electric Manufacturing and the National Welding Technical Committee.

SkillsUSA is a partnership of students, teachers and industry working together to ensure America has a skilled work force. The organization helps students excel by augmenting their technical education with training in leadership, team working skills and in citizenship and character development. SkillsUSA serves more than 300,000 students and instructors annually. The organization has 16,693 teachers and school administrators who serve as professional SkillsUSA members and instructors. More than 1,100 businesses, industry and labor sponsors actively support SkillsUSA at the national level through financial aid, in-kind contributions, and involvement of their people in SkillsUSA activities. Many more work directly with state associations and local chapters.

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