



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Bethlehem, PA

US Speedskating 2008 Spring Board Meeting

DATE: April 19, 2008

Bonnie Blair Announces her Support for Olympic Training Center in Richmond, Virginia.

"An Olympic Training Center to develop high performance athletes in Speed Skating and Cycling would be an excellent platform for growth of high level sports in Richmond Virginia," say Bonnie.

She went on to say, "Today's competitive athletes must be able to maximize performance, for example to continually lower world records. This requires the athletic services and training tools that emerge from training centers like the one proposed in Richmond."

"Skating and Cycling involve related muscles and serve as excellent cross training activities. Witness the number of speed skaters who have also excelled in cycling, like Chris Whitty and Eric Heiden. A Cycling-Skating facility should serve as a magnet, drawing thousands of aspiring athletes to Richmond from throughout the mid-Atlantic that today have limited access to high level training facilities needed to achieve Olympic level performances," she added.

Bonnie concluded her remarks stating, "with the proposed seating capacity, Richmond would become an outstanding venue for the US National Championships as well as International World Cup competitions."

Bonnie Blair

Winner of Five Olympic Gold Medals

The most decorated US woman in Olympic history

Sport's Illustrated 1994 Sports Person of the Year

Named 69th Greatest Athlete of the Century by ESPN

Interested parties should contact Steve Burton or visit www.virginiasppeedskating.org

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