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NEWS RELEASE

ERIKA ANSCHUTZ WINS SILVER MEDAL IN SPAIN WITH U.S. WORLD ARCHERY TEAM

Sixteen-year-old Erika Anschutz of Grand Island, Nebraska won a silver medal as a member of the U.S. Archery Team that competed in the 43rd World Outdoor Target Archery Championship which was held in Madrid, Spain during June 20-26. The tournament, which is held once every two years, was attended by 485 archers representing 65 nations around the world. The U.S. Team was comprised of sixteen men and women archers from across the nation who were divided into four, four-person teams based on their gender and type of bow used (recurve or compound). Erika, who was the youngest member of the entire U.S. Team, was joined on the women's compound bow team by Mary Zorn (College Station, Texas), Jamie Van Natta (Toledo, Ohio), and Christie Colin (Buffalo, New York). The number two seeded U.S. women's compound bow team won the silver medal after losing a close, 27-arrow finals match to France by a score of 250-246. Denmark defeated Belgium 242-238 for the bronze medal. A total of 19 international teams competed in the women's compound bow team event during the tournament.

During the individual competition event, Erika shot against 86 other archers representing 32 countries. After the first day of competition in the 144-arrow qualification round, Erika led the field with a score of 685 points. She concluded the qualification round on day two with a score of 1,362 points for a fourth place finish. The field of competition was then cut to the top 64 archers in preparation for the start of the Olympic Round elimination matches on day three of the tournament. Erika, who was ranked number four going into this event was paired against an archer from Venezuela for the first elimination round match of 18 arrows. In one of the biggest upsets of the day, Erika was defeated by a score of 165-161, and eliminated from further competition in the individual event. Unfortunately, she was not alone in her defeat as none of the other U.S. men or women compound bow archers advanced beyond the third elimination round during the tournament. This marked the first time since 1995, when the compound bow division was included in the World Outdoor Target Archery Championship tournament, that the U.S. would be prevented from winning one or more medals in the individual event.

This was the fifth U.S. World Archery Team that Erika has competed on in the past four years, and her first experience as a member of a senior team. During August 2002, she traveled with the U.S. Team to Nymburk, Czech Republic for the VII Junior World Outdoor Target Archery Championship and established a new world record score while winning the gold medal in the individual compound bow competition for cadet women (age 16 and under). Less than one year later, Erika was the youngest member of the U.S. Team that went to Nimes, France during March 2003 for the VII World Indoor Archery Championship. While in France, she competed in the junior division (age 18 and under) and won her second and third world titles with first and second place finishes in the team and individual competitions, respectively. During July 2004, Erika competed in the VIII Junior World Outdoor Target Archery Championship at Lilleshall, Great Britain. She won gold and bronze medals at that tournament in the junior division for the team and individual competitions, respectively. Earlier this year in March, Erika traveled with the U.S. Team to Aalborg, Denmark for the VIII World Indoor Archery Championship where she won a silver medal while competing in the individual event for junior women. As a result of her recent performance at the world championship in Spain, Erika has amassed a total of seven world archery titles since 2002. During this same period, she has also shot sixteen world record scores in indoor and outdoor competition.

For detailed information about how Erika and her fellow U.S. Team members performed at the 43rd World Outdoor Target Archery Championship, please visit the NAA's website at <http://www.usarchery.org/>. Additional information about the tournament, including pictures of the event, may also be accessed by visiting the following website: <http://www.archery.org>.

Erika will be a senior at Grand Island Senior High School this coming school year. In addition to archery, she enjoys listening to music, watching movies, and spending time with her family and friends. Erika is the daughter of Steve and Jurita Anschutz. Steve is employed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Grand Island, while Jurita works for The Procter & Gamble Company at its Iams facility in Aurora, Nebraska.