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3-time U.S. Women's Olympic Volleyball Gold Medalist, Kerri Walsh-Jennings Comes to Kansas City

WIN for KC will host annual Women's Sports Awards Celebration on Feb. 1

KANSAS CITY, MO – The Women's Intersport Network (WIN for KC) is proud to announce that women's sports icon Kerri Walsh-Jennings will be the keynote speaker for the 19th annual Women's Sports Awards Celebration set for 11:30 a.m. on Friday, February 1, 2013 at the Sheraton Crown Center.

Walsh began her career on the indoor volleyball court at Stanford University and garnered a number of records before transitioning to the sand where she has become one half of the winningest team in beach volleyball history with partner Misty May-Treanor. Married to U.S. volleyball player, Casey Jennings, Walsh is also the proud mom of two young sons and is expecting her third next spring.

Walsh-Jennings has many career achievements, highlighted below:

Three-time Olympic gold medalist with Misty May-Treanor in Athens (2004), Beijing (2008), and London (2012); Two-time Association of Volleyball Professionals (AVP) MVP (2003, 2004); Six-time Team of the Year recipient with Misty May-Treanor (2003-2008); AVP Best Offensive and Most Outstanding Player in 2003 and 2007; Federation of International Volleyball (FIVB) Best Hitter, Best Blocker and Sports person in 2007; Only the second player in NCAA history to receive First-Team All-American honors all four seasons while at Stanford University (1996-1999); First player in Pac-10 history to record 1,500 kills (1,553), 1,200 digs (1,285) and 500 blocks (502); In 2011, she was inducted into the Stanford University Hall of Fame

The WIN for KC Celebration will also honor female athletes and high school state champions from greater Kansas City. This year, six area women will be awarded for their tremendous achievements in sports, fitness and physical activity.

The award winners are as follows: Barbara Nelson (BKD WOW Award), JoAnn Herd (UMB Senior Sportswoman Award), Terry Mann (Sprint Teamwork Award), Shawnie Nix (Hallmark Leadership Award), Ellen Bell (DST Systems Resiliency Award), and Makaela Kerr (Youth Sports Girl Award).

"The award winners are a special part of the luncheon because they are so inspirational in their accomplishments," said Kathy Nelson, President and CEO of the Greater Kansas City Sports Commission and WIN for KC. "Our goal at the event is to ultimately motivate more people in the room to get moving. No one does that better than our award winners who, through sports, have become true "she-roses!"

The annual Awards Celebration is held in conjunction with National Girls & Women in Sports Day. It is the largest luncheon celebrating the day and is an annual sell-out with more than 1,400 participants. National Girls & Women in Sports Day (NGWSD) was organized by the Women's Sports Foundation in 1987 and is a nationwide celebration of community-based events to honor achievements and encourage female participation in sports.

Tickets for the Celebration may be purchased at www.winforkc.org.

The Women's Intersport Network for Kansas City (WIN for KC), advocates and promotes the lifetime value of sports and fitness, while providing opportunities for participation and for leadership development. Our mission is to improve the health, confidence and leadership skills of girls and women in our community. WIN for KC was established in 1994 as a division of the Kansas City Sports Commission and Foundation. For more information, visit www.winforkc.org or call (816) 474-GOKC.

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