



Media Release – 25th February 2010

**Vancouver 2010: ‘School’s-Out’ for Cheltzie’s Smallest Fans
Cheltzie’s Olympic Dream Sees Interest in Ice Skating Rocket**

As Australia’s new ice queen, Cheltzie Lee, skates beautifully into the Olympic free program in Vancouver this Friday, her biggest – or smallest – fans are making sure her cheering squad on home soil is prepped and ready for action.

Holly (aged 9) and Jackson Fennel (aged 10), the children of Cheltzie’s coach Kylie, were allowed a brief respite from their school activities yesterday to watch their talented friend skate through to the final.

The children take their role as unofficial presidents of Cheltzie’s fan club so seriously they have hung a huge banner of congratulations outside their school in Truscott Street, North Ryde.

9 year old Holly wants to skate just like Cheltzie when she grows up. She says: “Cheltzie looked really pretty when she skated and her outfit was really sparkly. Our teachers let us watch Cheltzie skate. I can’t wait to watch her on Friday.”

Cheltzie also received a surprise addition to her cheer squad in Vancouver. Not content with supporting from afar, Macquarie ice rink manager, Wendy Rigg –Smith booked a last minute flight to the games to support the rink’s brightest protégé. She says: “I hadn’t planned to go to Vancouver, but I just had to see Cheltzie perform and she didn’t disappoint. Her performance on Tuesday was amazing: she nailed it.”

Wendy’s hoping for more skating stars to emerge from Macquarie following Cheltzie’s success. She’s already seen a huge increase in young people looking to take to the ice and sign up to the Aussie Skate scheme.

For budding Cheltzie fans who are keen to skate in her ice tracks, the newly re-launched Aussie Skate™ program is a national learn to skate scheme for would-be skaters, whatever their age or ability.

Australian’s can cheer for Cheltzie Lee when she takes to the ice this Friday from 12pm AEDT, skating 9th.

Ends

For more information, or to arrange an interview, contact Trisha Routledge and Mark
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