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2010 College Table Tennis National Championships

April 9-11, 2010 in Waukesha, Wisconsin

WEBSITE: <http://www.nctta.org/champs/2010>

****NEWS RELEASE****

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ONE AND ONLY LOOK TO MAKE A SPLASH AT CHAMPIONSHIPS

Thirty-eight teams will compete at the 2010 College Table Tennis National Championships, but some players will be forced to go it alone. As the only players from their school to qualify for the Championships, these players may not have an extended bench of teammates supporting them, but they hope to prove that one player, one coach, and a whole lotta determination is all that's needed to make their mark in the singles competition.

Tahl Leibovitz, one such competitor who hails from Queens College in New York, will be attending the Championships for the third straight year. Queens College is part of the City of New York college system and supports Leibovitz in his every adventure at College Table Tennis National Championships.

"I have represented Queens College (CUNY) for the past 2 years at the Collegiate Championships. The college has been very helpful," Leibovitz says. A fiery competitor, whose inspired performances at past Championships Leibovitz to second place in the Men's Singles event in 2008 and a national title in the Men's Doubles event in 2009. Leibovitz will definitely be a player to watch in 2010.

Weilun Xu is the top table tennis player at Furman University in South Carolina and also the only player from that school to ever qualify for the National Championships. After going undefeated in his regional qualifier, Xu will now compete in his first Championships. The prospect of competing on the big stage of college table tennis' premiere event doesn't seem to leave Xu with any first-time jitters, however. "I feel excited" says Xu. The support of Furman University certainly couldn't have hurt his enthusiasm either. In addition to supporting Xu's trip, the school also helped purchase a table tennis robot for Xu to train with!

Another college table tennis newcomer competing in his first Championships is YanJun Gao, originally from China, now attending LaGuardia Community College in New York. Though he may be new to the college ranks, Gao is an experienced table tennis player, having trained and competed in Germany and currently ranked No. 13 in the sport among US men.

"I feel excited to be the only one representing my college, but unfortunately my school does not sponsor the game and there is no table tennis club in my school," observes Gao about his collegiate experience so far. Gao figures to be one of the top seeds of the Men's Singles competition and by will team up with Leibovitz in Men's Doubles, creating a fearsome duo in that event as well.

Players and spectators alike can enjoy a weekend full of table tennis at the 2010 College Table Tennis Championships which starts Friday April 9th and continues to Sunday April 11th at the Center Sports Complex in Waukesha, Wisconsin.

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About NCTTA

The National Collegiate Table Tennis Association (NCTTA) is a non-profit organization established exclusively for promoting the sport of table tennis at the college level. As the national governing body for college table tennis in the United States and Canada, NCTTA organizes intercollegiate competition throughout North America. **www.nctta.org**