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August 25, 2009

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Sickerson Named Iowa Games 2009 Marty McHone Male Athlete of the Year

Ames, IA – Nate Sicker of Ankeny has been named the Iowa Games 2009 Marty McHone Male Athlete of the Year. He will be presented his award on Wednesday, September 16 at 7:00 pm at White Oak Vineyards Iowa near Cambridge at the annual Iowa Sports Foundation sponsorship reception.

Sickerson came to the inaugural Iowa Games in 1987 as a young middle school athlete with a love to run, but little did he know he would become an Iowa Games veteran. Since 1987 Sickerson has competed in all twenty-three Summer Iowa Games, bringing home over 60 gold medals in track and field events.

Sickerson, now from Ankeny, participated as a prep athlete at Urbandale High School. Despite an injury his senior year of high school went on to compete in track at Coe College for three years continuing to compete in the Iowa Games every summer and adding to his gold medal collection.

The Iowa Games track meet is not his only meet. Sickerson competes in several track meets throughout the year including the USATF Masters Championship. This year in the 35-39 age group, he brought home two national championships in the 100 meter dash and the 4x400 relay, as well as, a runner up finish in the 200 meter dash. Competing at the national level, Sickerson is ranked third in the 35-39 age group in the 100 and 200 meter dashes. Not only does Nate have speed outdoors, he is also nationally ranked in his respective age division in the indoor 60 and 200 meter dashes.

Away from the Iowa Games, Sickerson holds a management position at Tone's Spices in Ankeny. Although this is his full time job, his love for the sport finds him at Saydel High School every spring as he is the head track and field coach. Sickerson's most memorable Iowa Games moment came this year when he won the gold medal in the 100 meter dash. As Sickerson was finishing he could see the excitement and joy on his boy's faces, knowing that they were proud of their daddy.

Sickerson's dedication, accomplishments, and character as a coach and athlete in the sport of track and field have earned him the Iowa Games 2009 Marty McHone Male Athlete of the Year. The award was re-named in 2003 after long time participant and former Iowa Games Athlete of the Year Marty McHone, who died of cancer in 2002.

The Iowa Sports Foundation (ISF) is a nonprofit sports management organization that helps develop amateur sports in Iowa and promotes positive lifestyles and physical fitness through athletic events and health education programs. The ISF host the Summer Iowa Games, Winter Iowa Games, Live Healthy America, Live Healthy Iowa, Live Healthy Iowa Kids, Go The Distance Day, Hoopin' at the Dome, Net Fest, Fish Iowa Games, ISF Mud Run, ISF Flag Football State Championship and Iowa Games Golf Classic.

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