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News Release

For Immediate Release

Watch Gracie Gold go for gold at Feb. 19 Olympic watch party

Eleven years ago a Wilder Elementary second-grader went to a friend's birthday party at Mediacom Ice Park, where she circled around in rental skates and was fascinated by other skaters spinning on the ice. She went home and asked for skating lessons.

Today she's skating for a medal to match her last name at the Sochi 2014 Olympic Winter Games.

Figure skating fans are invited to watch hometown favorite Gracie Gold compete for gold at an Olympic watch party, Wednesday, Feb. 19, 7-10:30 p.m. at Mediacom Ice Park. Gold is scheduled to compete in the Ladies Short Program.

This free event, presented by Mediacom Ice Park and KY3, includes:

- Watch KY3's Olympic coverage on big screen TVs in the Ice Park Lounge and a 9'x12' screen in the West Rink
- Special KY3-priced \$3 ice skating, includes skate rental, 8:15-9:15 p.m.
- Sign a "good luck" card for Gracie
- Meet local Olympians Ginny Fuldner, Jason Pyrah and Lori Endicott-Vandersnick
- Meet KY3 TV personalities, 7-8 p.m.
- Goofy Games for Gold Medals trivia and ice games
- Pizza and other concessions
- Comfy couches for TV viewing

Gold, 18, and twin sister, Carly, took Learn to Skate lessons at Mediacom Ice Park before their family moved to Illinois to further their training. Ice Park staff say the Gold sisters showed early talent on the ice. Championship banners hanging in the West Rink bear their names.

Mediacom Ice Park has another connection to the US Olympic Committee. The Ice Park is home to the nation's only Community Olympic Development Program (CODP) for Ice Hockey. Members of the Greater Springfield CODP Board will attend the Olympic watch party and be available to discuss Springfield's CODP Ice Hockey, Archery, Tennis and Volleyball programs.

Additional Ice Park events during the Olympic Winter Games:

- Saturday, Feb. 15 and Sunday, Feb. 16, 1-2:30 p.m. ó **Goofy Games for Gold Medals** trivia and ice games during Public Skating. \$4/kids, students and seniors, \$5.50/adults, \$2.50 skate rental.
- Saturday, Feb. 15, 7-8:30 p.m. ó **Special KY3-priced \$3 skating**, includes skate rental.



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ó **Free skating and free skate rental.** Skating coaches

- Saturday, Feb. 22, 1-2 p.m. ó **Free skating and free skate rental** for National Skating Month. On-ice stations with coaches on the ice to teach stopping turning, gliding and swizzles.

For more information, call Mediacom Ice Park at 417-866-7444. For media inquiries, call Jenny Fillmer Edwards, Public Information Administrator for the Springfield-Greene County Park Board, at 417-874-2176 or 417-224-5510.