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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### AQUAJETS EXCEL AT NATIONALS AND IN STATE RECORD BOOKS

Rachel Bootsma became the first Aquajet to win a Junior National individual event by swimming a 1:01.71 in the 100 Backstroke at the Junior Nationals Championships held at the University of Minnesota Aquatic Center on August 4-6. Her time set a new Junior National meet record, crushing the previous record held by Olympian Elizabeth Beisel by nearly 2 seconds. Rachel also bettered her own state record in the event.

Abby Duncan had a phenomenal race in the 100 Breaststroke, placing 5<sup>th</sup> overall with an Olympic Trial qualifying time of 1:10.84, and posting a new state record. Van Donkersgoed had a personal best of 2:23.93 in the 200 Breaststroke, breaking his own state record, and the 400 Medley Relay of Katie Bootsma, Abby Duncan, Rachel Bootsma and Emily Blasko finished 7<sup>th</sup> with a time of 4:19.76, setting a new state record as well. Both Rachel and Abby will qualify to be members of the US Junior National Swim Team, and will travel with the team to compete internationally over the next year.

In only its 6<sup>th</sup> year, the Aquajets have had some tremendous individual and team accomplishments. "We are fortunate to have our own training facility," says Aquajets Head Coach Kate Lundsten. "It has really helped the kids achieve their true potential." This summer alone, they have posted 17 new Minnesota State Long Course records, bringing the team's Long Course record total to 25. 2008 individual records were set by: Bre Thorne in the 9-10 Girls 100 Freestyle, 100 Butterfly and 100 Back; Olivia Anderson in the 11-12 Girls 50 Breaststroke and 100 Breaststroke; Van Donkersgoed in the 13-14 Mens 200 Breaststroke; Rachel Bootsma in the 13-14 Womens 50 Freestyle, 100 Freestyle, 100 Backstroke, and 200 Backstroke; Abby Duncan in the 15-16 Womens 100 Breaststroke and 200 Breaststroke; and Tess Behrens in the 15-16 Womens 100 Backstroke and 200 Backstroke.

Three relay teams also set new state records: the 11-12 Girls 200 Medley Relay of Kira Zubar, Olivia Anderson, Kendal Jacobus and Megan Pohle; the 11-12 Girls 400 Medley Relay of Amelia Schilling, Olivia Anderson, Kendal Jacobus and Kira Zubar; and the Senior 400 Medley Relay of Katie Bootsma, Abby Duncan, Rachel Bootsma and Emily Blasko.

Interested in becoming an Aquajet? Find out more at [www.aquajets.com](http://www.aquajets.com). We will hold our final Splash night on September 4 at our private 13-lane indoor training facility in Eden Prairie. After Sept. 4, individual swim evaluations can be arranged by calling our office at 952-351-9928.