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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **INAUGURAL 13.1 MARATHON® MINNEAPOLIS TAKES ITS COURSE Over 2,500 Participants Run, Party and Race to the Finish Line**

**MINNEAPOLIS, MN August 22, 2010** – The Inaugural 13.1® Minneapolis took more than 2,500 runners and walkers on a course filled with festivities, beautiful scenery and live entertainment. Kicking off near St. Anthony Main and ending at Nokomis Park, the half marathon and Karhu 5K, proved to truly be where the party met the pavement.

Coming in first was Chad Ernst, 22, a lieutenant in the Marine Corps, with a time of 1:13:50. “I was pleased with everything about the race, especially finishing first,” said Ernst, who has been running since he was ten years old but had never won a race this large. Other top male runners included Christian Mihelich, coming in second at 1:16:32, followed closely by Jonathon Balabuck who finished the race at 1:17:38.

The first female to cross the finish line was Leah Thorvilson, 31, with a time of 1:26:11. Thorvilson recently qualified for the Olympic trials marathon team and has run over 150 races in the past 3 years. “I’ve competed in a lot of races and was really impressed with this one, particularly the turn out for an inaugural race,” said Thorvilson.

Charity partner Team WorldVision has raised more than \$150,000 and expects to top the \$200,000 mark overall for the race. The money will go towards providing clean water for more than 68,000 children and families and 90,000 livestock in Kenya, Africa.

#### **About 13.1 Marathon® Series**

Thirteen.One Marathon® Series is the series of half marathons serving some of America's top running communities with a stand-alone half marathon for locals to embrace and visitors to experience. The series kicked off on the West Coast in January with 13.1 Marathon® Los Angeles (January 10, 2010) followed by events in Miami Beach (March 7, 2010), New York (April 3, 2010), Chicago (June 13, 2010) and Boston (June 27, 2010). Upcoming events include Minneapolis (August 22, 2010) Atlanta (October 3, 2010), and Ft. Lauderdale (November 15, 2010). For more information go to [www.131marathon.com](http://www.131marathon.com).

#### **About US Road Sports**

US Road Sports & Entertainment Group is a health and wellness company dedicated to the production of world-class endurance events. The mission of US Road Sports is to offer an unparalleled participant sports experience that showcases host communities and endures as a deeply valued local asset through events that are a part of the city’s culture, identity and brand. For each participant, US Road Sports strives to offer events that allow participants of all skill levels the opportunity to improve their physical and mental health and accomplish life-altering goals while having fun. US Road Sports provides sponsors and municipalities highly effective exposure to help maximize their presence and message in the community.

**About Team WorldVision**

Team World Vision empowers you to help change lives around the world. Dedicate your race to raising awareness and funds for some of the world's most vulnerable children. For more information, visit [www.teamworldvision.org](http://www.teamworldvision.org).

World Vision is a Christian humanitarian organization dedicated to working with children, families, and their communities worldwide to reach their full potential by tackling the causes of poverty and injustice. World Vision serves all people, regardless of a person's religion, race, ethnicity, or gender. For more information, visit [www.worldvision.org](http://www.worldvision.org).

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