For Immediate Release

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Orage Masters 5 Course Preview with TJ Schiller

March 31, 2008 (Montreal, QC.)— With all the hype surrounding the Masters 5th year anniversary and the move to the WSSF at Whistler we feel it's only fair to give you a little insider info… a behind the scenes look if you will, into the development of one of the most important aspects of the event, The Course. As told from the one and only, Orage team rider and X Games champion TJ Schiller

1. **ORAGE:** TJ, first and foremost, how's the knee? When can we expect to see you be back on skis?

   TJ: I had surgery 8 weeks ago in Squamish by Dr. Mconckey. The first 4 days were the worst. Not so fun to move around or do too much. I was laid up on a leather couch watching satellite TV eating Tylenols and crushing water. I had to wait in Vancouver for 9 days until the Doc could see me, so I spent a couple more days watching the Rambo series, Die Hard series and the Godfather. I never really watch TV, so it was time comfortably spent (especially with my Cryo cuff). As soon as I felt comfortable enough to ride a bike I bought one and set it up at home. I can pretty much beat Lance Armstrong in races now. My physio and Doc are extremely happy with the condition of my broken boy - I just gotta' make sure I keep up with all my exercises and also be sure not to push it too hard. I expect to be skiing in September. I will still be coaching at Momentum in the summer but just taken 'er easy.

2. **ORAGE:** It's rumored that due to your injury you'll be playing a unique role at the Masters 5... Do you feel confident and qualified to act as the team manager on behalf of team Armada? Have you ever held a clip board, or put together team strategies of any type, whether they be on hill, or for a team sport such as your local under 12 softball league.

   Orage: *No comment was made by TJ on the team management subject which leads us to believe that TJ is either very tight lipped about his Under 12 softball team or has something up his sleeve with the Armada team so secretive that he feels it should remain completely under wraps… hmmmm, very interesting.*

3. **ORAGE:** It's also rumored that your services have been requested in the area of course design. Can you let us in on a few unique features of the course or your overall intention with the layout and design?

   TJ: This Rumor you speak of is true. Mr. Cody Lynge (Orage Team / Events Mngr) and I went up to Whistler last week and scoped the course. We had the WB park crew up there to show us around and throw around ideas. The course is a 4 tier set-up; it's made to have quick laps with different lines run after run. My favorite part on the course will be the hip jumps. The Blackcomb park crew are infamous for their Hips.

4. **ORAGE:** What's the snow like in whistler right now... Do you have enough to work with?

   TJ: Snow pack is deep. We live in BC, It never stops puking here!!!

5. **ORAGE:** Is it fun driving in a snow cat... we hear they have nice systems built in to bump tunes. Is there some truth to this?

   TJ: I haven't been in the cat yet in Whistler. I'll be heading back April 6th to start building it - booooyah!!! I've been in the cat with Jon before so it's going to be great to go for a spin again.

6. **ORAGE:** Since you will not be able to compete this year, will you be building any features that you yourself would love to hit or are deathly afraid of in hopes of seeing some crazy carnage... Is this the TJ dream course or just a bunch of random features that you and your crew would love to session?

TJ: Everything here will be built to a safe / fun aspect but at the same time made gnar enough to get down on. Choices, choices, choices.

7. **ORAGE:** In the past the Masters courses have been jib heavy, are you headed in the same direction?

   TJ: Because we have more room for the course this season we can fit bigger features in. Like Jumps. There will definitely be some great rail features too though that I think everyone will be stoked on.

8. **ORAGE:** As a BC native, are you stoked that the Masters is essentially moving to your backyard? Or are you bummed that you're forced to watch from the sidelines.

   TJ: Stoked its in BC! Mammoth was great but come on... It's Whistler. And regarding not being able to shred, I'm not too bummed because I'm stoked to see all my friends and check out all the trickory!!!!

9. **ORAGE:** This being the 5th anniversary of the Masters where team costumes play a major role in the event... have you heard any word on which teams are dressing as what? Will we see outrageous getups like clowns on stilts or fire breathing jugglers?

   TJ: Costumes should be in full force. I would suggest to other TM's and crew that it's on. In a big way. Be sure to get as gnarly, as sleezy, as stupid as you can. Make's it more fun. Right?

10. **ORAGE:** Will you yourself dawn a killer costume atop the Armada Crib?

    TJ: Armada has got a damn good setup for this year's Orage Masters. It's real mean.

11. **ORAGE:** From the athlete perspective, what is the coolest aspect of the Orage Masters?

    TJ: Skiing with all your boys!

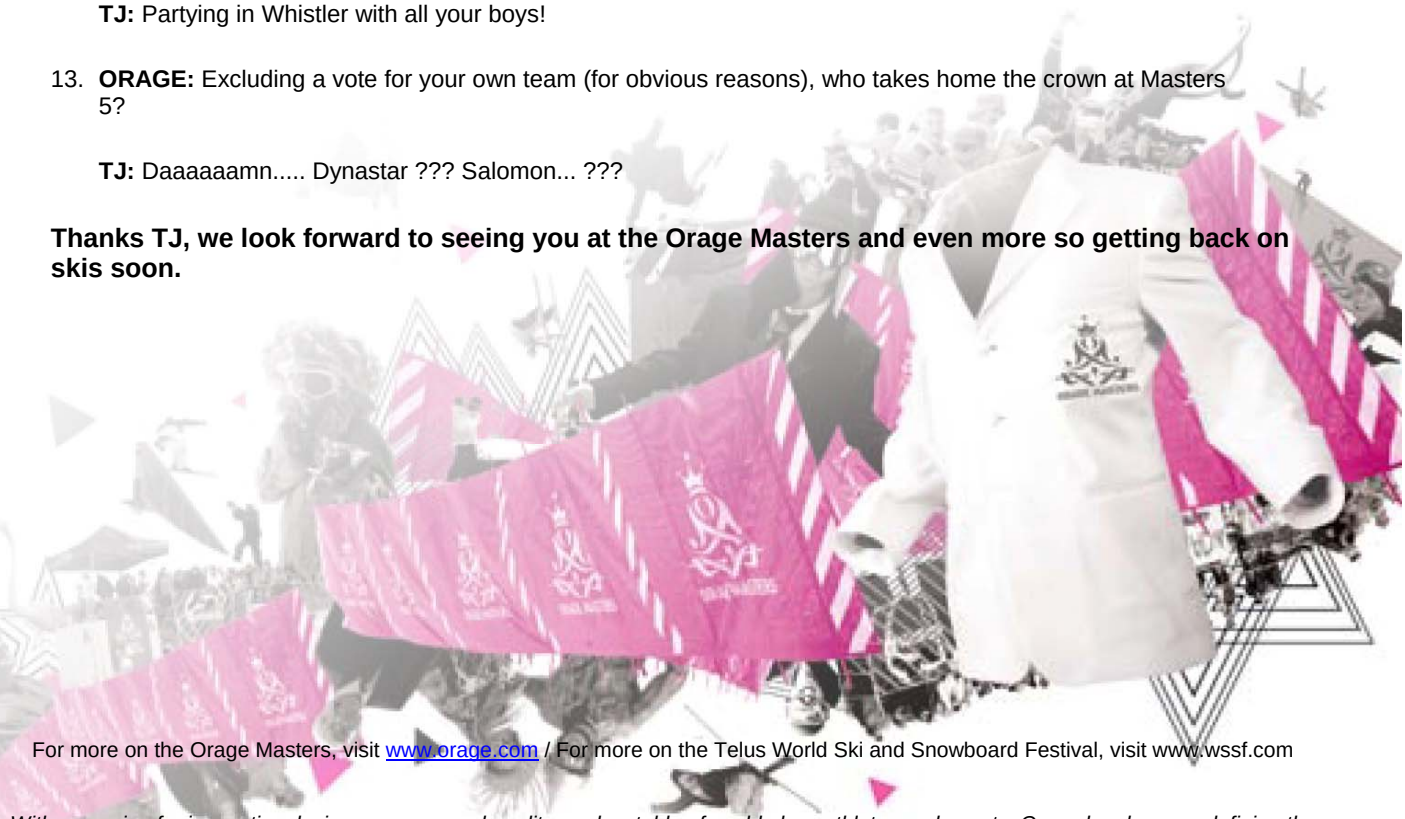
12. **ORAGE:** From the team manager perspective, what is the coolest aspect of the Orage Masters?

    TJ: Partying in Whistler with all your boys!

13. **ORAGE:** Excluding a vote for your own team (for obvious reasons), who takes home the crown at Masters 5?

    TJ: Daaaaaamn..... Dynastar ??? Salomon... ???

Thanks TJ, we look forward to seeing you at the Orage Masters and even more so getting back on skis soon.



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