

## Saskatoon skater breaks four records at in-line nationals

SP Staff

Meaghan Buisson, a Saskatoon athlete based in Calgary, blew away four records at the Canadian in-line speed skating championships in St. Lambert, Que., this week.

Buisson won the 300 metres in 28.4 seconds, the 500 metres in 47.8 seconds, the 1,000 metres in one minute, 40.22 seconds and the 10 kilometres in 18:22. She also won the 20-km race.

The records for the in-line sprint races were previously held by Winnipeg's Cindy Klassen, who won five medals in long-track speed skating at the Turin Olympics last winter.

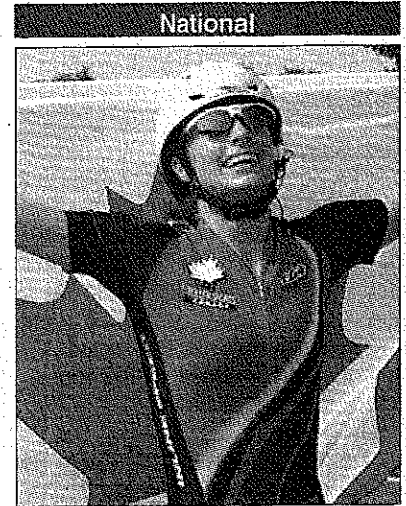
Buisson trained with the Canadian long-track speed skating team in Calgary last winter and has only recently resumed in-line training.

"It was a bit of a gamble as to how prepared I'd be for nationals," said Buisson, 26. "I don't feel race-prepared even yet."

Buisson is going to attempt to break the world record in the marathon today at the Gilles Villeneuve Circuit, the course used each year for the Canadian Grand Prix Formula One race in Montreal. The record of one hour, 28 minutes, 58 seconds was set in 1997 by Kim Ames of the U.S.



Meaghan Buisson



—Photo provided

Meaghan Buisson

## Saskatoon athlete breaks world record

Meaghan Buisson of Saskatoon went flat out on a Formula One racetrack Saturday, going faster, in fact, than anyone has ever gone before.

Skating 10.5 laps of the five-kilometre Gilles Villeneuve Circuit in Montreal, the site of the annual Canadian Grand Prix F-1 race, Buisson broke the world record for in-line skating in a solo marathon.

Buisson, 26, finished in one hour, 18 minutes, 15.73 seconds, chopping more than 10 minutes off the previous record of 1:28:56 set by Kim Davis of the U.S. in 1997.

"I saw a quote the other day that I like: 'When you win a race you beat everyone who showed up that day; when you break the world record, you beat everyone who ever raced,'" said Buisson.

She said her time might have been even faster if not for the head-wind she encountered on a certain straight during each lap of the course.

"It was like skating into a wind tunnel," she said. "But I'm used to that; thank goodness I've lived in Saskatchewan for the last six years."

Buisson is now based in Calgary where last winter she began training with the national long-track speed skating program.