Hailey Thompson, a 2011 SPASH graduate, competed in Whitewater Canoe Slalom events nationally and internationally from 2008-2011 but has been playing on the whitewater since age 12. Whitewater canoe involves kneeling with a single bladed paddle navigating a slalom course. In 2010, she was the top ranked women's whitewater canoe paddler in the United States and took the bronze medal in IFC Canoe Slalom Junior World Championships in Foix, France, becoming the first American woman in her sport to reach the podium in international competition.

Hailey continues to kayak the whitewater rivers near her home in Anchorage, Alaska as well as around the world, championing the cause of protecting wild riverways and their habitats.

Her Whitewater Canoe Career highlights include:

- US Senior Slalom National Team member
- Semi-finals at 2011 World Cup
- 2011 National Champion Women's Canoe
- 2011 first place in US. National Team Trials
- Bronze medal at 2010 Junior World Championship
- 6th at 2010 Senior World Championship



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Portage County Gazette August 13, 2010, photo by John Th



Halley Thompson (far right) smiles at the awards ceremony after she received the bronze medal in women's cance at the 2010 IFC Cance Slalom Junior World Championship in Foix, France, on Sunday, July 11. (John Michael Thompson photo)