

Olympics newest goal for triathlete

By Fiona Green



Tatiana Vertiz is no stranger to competition. At only 20 years old she has been competing in triathlons for over 2 years and has already completed the Hawaii Ironman. In 2007, she was the youngest finisher in this grueling event, finishing 4th in the 18-24-year age group with a time of 10:41:53.

Last year, she was excited to qualify for the age group Triathlon World Championships, which will be held in Vancouver in June. While Tatiana is a strong contender on the bike, she believes that running gives her the biggest edge in these events, and recent training has been focused on increasing her speed.

The SMU student plans to specialize in sports marketing. As for future race goals, she plans to focus on short course (Olympic distance) racing for the next few years with hopes of climbing the ITU rankings and eventually making it to the 2012 London Olympics.

Demonstrating maturity beyond her years, Tatiana stated her belief that "laying out my long term goals publicly makes me that much more responsible for them and consequently serves as a great motivator." We wish her the best of luck!