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*Surprising Finish Highlights Inaugural Adaptive Event at Winter X Games*

**MERRILL-NATIVE JIM WAZNY WINS SNOCROSS SILVER**

**SAGINAW** – Wright & Filippis prosthetic technician **JIM WAZNY (Merrill, MI)** stunned the extremity-sports world this past Sunday (Jan. 31), capturing the silver medal in the first-ever **Adaptive SnoCross** event at the **ESPN Winter X Games 14** in Aspen, CO.

**Wazny**, 39, passed a number of talented riders to post an impressive time of 5:52.852, narrowly edging **Doug Henry** (5:34.217) for second place. Professional rider **Mike Schultz** claimed the gold medal in 5:18.403.

“What an amazing honor it is to win the silver medal at the first Adaptive SnoCross at X Games 14,” said **Wazny**. “For disabled athletes to be recognized by ESPN and the other organizers of the X Games is truly an awesome accomplishment.”

“The experience of being with all the high-profile athletes in the world is mind-blowing,” he said. “To win the silver medal at X Games is a dream come true, and it proves that all things are possible if you are willing to put in the hard work.”

**Wazny**, who also competed in motocross at the Summer X Games in Los Angeles last August, is also an annual competitor in the Extremity Games which are staged each summer at various sites throughout Michigan.

“This experience at the Winter X Games has also confirmed for me – and this may sound strange – that losing my leg back in 2000 has helped me become a better person.”

A motocross accident in April of 2000 resulted in the loss of his left leg above the knee. For the past four years, **Wazny** has worked at **Wright & Filippis** in pursuit of becoming a prosthetist. He is very active in the company's **AmpuTeam** program, which helps amputees return to pursuing their dreams and leading the most active life possible.

"I don't believe I would be where I am today if I hadn't lost my leg," **Wazny** said. "It was a blessing in disguise. If I'm able to help one person by inspiring them to achieve their goals, all the hard work that I put in is worth it."

**Wazny** also serves on the board of directors for the **Athletes with Disabilities Network** which hosts the **Extremity Games** ([www.extremitygames.com](http://www.extremitygames.com)) and the **Athletes with Disabilities Hall of Fame** ([www.adhof.org](http://www.adhof.org)).

**Wright & Filippis** is a Michigan-based healthcare company specializing in prosthetics, orthotics, respiratory care services, and home medical equipment and supplies. Founded in 1944, **Wright & Filippis** is the state's largest full-service home healthcare provider. The company's 36 state-wide offices include locations in Saginaw, Flint, Lapeer, Owosso, Cass City and Bad Axe.

**MEDIA NOTE:** *Jim Wazny can be contacted directly by calling (989) 239-1449.*

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