

For Immediate Release

# LESTER SPEIGHT, WENDY RAQUEL ROBINSON, SKAI JACKSON AND TRACEY GOLD STAR IN THE UP ORIGINAL MOVIE

### MY DAD'S A SOCCER MOM

## FAMILY COMEDY PREMIERES EXCLUSIVELY ON UP, AT 7 P.M. EDT / 8 P.M. PDT ON SATURDAY, JUNE 21

### With Special Guest Stars Six-Time NFL Pro Bowler Terrell "T.O." Owens, NFL Linebacker Adalius Thomas, NFL Running Back Dorsey Levens and Atlanta's 680 The Fan & 93.7 FM Sports Talk Radio DJ Chris Dimino

ATLANTA – June 9, 2014 – UP, the television network dedicated to uplifting viewers every day, presents the UP Original Movie *My Dad's A Soccer Mom*, a fun, heartwarming family comedy about a star professional football player who bonds with his daughter on the soccer field after his football contract isn't renewed. The film stars football player Lester Speight ("My Wife and Kids," Reebok's Super Bowl XXXVII commercials), Wendy Raquel Robinson ("The Game," "The Steve Harvey Show"), Skai Jackson ("Jessie," "Bubble Guppies") with Tracey Gold (*Arachnoquake*, "Growing Pains"). *My Dad's A Soccer Mom* premieres exclusively on UP on Saturday, June 21 at 7:00 p.m. EDT / 8:00 p.m. PDT.

*My Dad's A Soccer Mom* also guest stars six-time NFL Pro Bowler Terrell Owens ("Go On," "Necessary Roughness"), NFL Linebacker Adalius Thomas, NFL Running Back Dorsey Levens (*Gridiron UK, Three Can Play That Game*) and Atlanta's 680 The Fan & 93.7 FM sports talk radio DJ Chris Dimino ("The Rude Awakening"). Filmed in Atlanta and produced by Swirl Films, the movie is directed by Randall Stevens ("

Gigi: God's Little Princess"). Executive Producer Rhonda Baraka (UP's "Marry Me For Christmas," "Trinity Goodheart") wrote the script.

Marion "Mad Dog" Casey (Lester Speight) is one of the biggest, baddest and most outrageous names in professional football, but lately his mouth has been outpacing his performance on the field. When Marion's contract isn't renewed and no one else rushes to sign him, he's not happy. Meanwhile, his wife Holly (Wendy Raquel Robinson), who has spent many years being a stay-at-home mom for their 10-year-old daughter Lacy (Skai Jackson), sees this as an opportunity for her to pursue her career ambitions in interior design with her sister Sherri (Dawn Halfkenny). After chauffeuring Lacy to ballet and theatre class – activities she really doesn't like, Marion discovers that she has a knack for soccer. He signs her up and begins his new life as a Soccer Dad - the only 300-pound, overbearing, ex-football player among this group of suburban moms! As he navigates the trickiness of being a hands on parent with soccer mom Lori (Tracey Gold) and the other mothers, Marion discovers the joy of his new relationship with his daughter.

"*My Dad's A Soccer Mom* is the perfect movie for June, as part of UP's month-long celebration of fatherhood," said Sophia Kelley, senior vice president of programming, UP. "This funny, fish-out-of-water film follows a giant of a man as he learns to adapt – and embrace – his life off the football field. At its heart, the movie is an endearing tale about a father reconnecting with his daughter through sports."

Throughout June, UP will air a number of father-themed films and marathons, including *Of Boys And Me*n, *Daddy Day Care, Daddy Day Camp, Courageous*, the *Lonesome Dove* mini-series and *Heaven Is Waiting.* 

UP presents *My Dad's A Soccer Mom*, a Swirl Films production. Starring Lester Speight, Wendy Raquel Robinson, Skai Jackson, Terrell Owens, Dawn Halfkenny with Tracey Gold. Guest starring Adalius Thomas, Dorsey Levens and Chris Dimino. Directed by Randall Stevens. Executive Produced and written by Rhonda Baraka. Produced by Eric Tomosunas, David Eubanks and Keith Neal. Director of Photography is Jeff Bollman.

Follow our cast at:

- www.UPtv.com/MyDadsaSoccerMom
- Lester Speight on Twitter @lesterspeight
- Wendy Raquel Robinson on Twitter @lamWendyRaquel
- Skai Jackson on Twitter @OfficialSkaiJ
- Terrell Owens on Twitter @terrellowens
- Tracey Gold on Twitter @TheTraceyGold
- Adalius Thomas on Twitter @adaliusthomas
- Dorsey Levens on Twitter <u>@DorseyLevens</u>
- Chris Dimino on Twitter @chrisdimino

### About UP

UP, America's favorite network for uplifting entertainment is a 24-hour television network that provides highquality, diverse, family-friendly programming, including original and premiere movies, theatricals, drama and comedy series, music and holiday specials. UP can be seen in 67 million homes in high definition (HD) and standard definition (SD) on cable systems including Bright House Networks, Cablevision, Charter, Comcast, Cox Communications and Time Warner Cable, as well as DIRECTV (Channel 338), DISH Network (Channel 188) and Verizon FIOS (Channel 224). As part of its mission to entertain and uplift, the network's pro-social initiative "Uplift Someone" reminds and inspires people to do simple acts of kindness. UP is also a service provider to its sister network ASPiRE. Based in Atlanta, UP is a division of UP Entertainment, LLC, which also offers gMovies, the first faith-friendly streaming movie service.

Follow UP on the Web at <u>www.UPtv.com</u>, on Facebook at <u>https://www.facebook.com/UPtv</u>, Twitter on @UPtv and Instagram at UP\_TV.

### **About Swirl Films**

Swirl Films (<u>www.swirlfilms.com</u>), America's "number one urban film production company," focuses on independent features and multi-camera productions. Recent films include 2012 ABFF Best Narrative Feature, Best Actress and Best Director winner *The Under Shepherd*, starring Isaiah Washington, Robinne Lee, Malinda Williams and Lamman Rucker, *35 & Ticking*, starring Kevin Hart, Meagan Good, Nicole Ari Parker and Mike Epps, and *Percentage*, with Flavor Unit Production (Queen Latifah & Shakim Compere). Swirl Films is a major content provider for UP. Most recently, Swirl Films produced *Marry Me For Christmas*, starring Malinda Williams, Brad James, and Victoria Rowell, and *The Perfect Summer*, starring Eric Roberts, Sydney Penny and Jason Castro in his TV acting debut. In addition, hit programming includes *She's Still Not Our Sister*, *Sugar Mommas*, and the *Wedding Vow* series. Additional original productions include: *Love For Sale* and *He's Mine Not Yours*.

Note to Editor: For additional press materials, high resolution photos and screeners, please visit: www.UPtv.com/pressroom.

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