



**PRESS RELEASE**

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## **Dominion Riverrock draws more than 3,500 participants and over 25,000 spectators to Brown's Island in Richmond, VA May 13-14**

### **Tao Berman repeats title in Red Bull Canal Crashers**

### **Sperry Top-Sider Kayak Boatercross boasts record numbers; Addition of Stand Up Paddleboarding events a huge hit with the crowd**

**RICHMOND, VA (May 15, 2011)** – The 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Dominion Riverrock festival, the East Coast's premier outdoor sports and river life festival, concluded this morning after drawing a record 3,500+ participants and more than 25,000 spectators to Brown's Island in Richmond, VA, for the weekend's festivities. After inclement weather caused Saturday evening's events to be postponed, the two-day festival expanded into a third day in order to wrap-up the remainder of the sporting events. Dominion Riverrock is one of the largest outdoor sports festivals in the United States.

As expected, the Red Bull Canal Crashers was a crowd-favorite as kayakers rode down a 30-foot ramp and were thrown into the air to show off their best trick before landing in the canal. In attendance were extreme kayaker and Red Bull athlete, Tao Berman, as well as 3-time world kayak freestyle champion Eric Jackson and his daughter Emily. The final round of Red Bull Canal Crashers was cancelled due to inclement weather, so scoring was based on results from preliminary rounds. Berman took home the \$1,000 cash prize for the Red Bull Canal Crashers as he had the highest score going into the final.

Also part of Dominion Riverrock this year was the Sperry Top-Sider Kayak Boatercross, which was held adjacent to Brown's Island in the James River. Heats of four kayaks raced 200 yards while weaving around buoys to get to the finish line. Eric Jackson captured first place in the Men's division and Emily Jackson took home the title on the Women's side.

"There were a lot of good boaters out there," said Jackson. "Boatercross is an 'anything can happen' event. I definitely didn't think I had it in the bag until I crossed the finish line in first place."

#### **Red Bull Canal Crashers**

##### Male:

- |                    |         |
|--------------------|---------|
| 1. Tao Berman      | \$1,000 |
| 2. Patrick Griffin | \$500   |
| 3. Max Posner      | \$250   |

#### **Sperry Top-Sider Kayak Boatercross**

##### Male:

- |                    |       |
|--------------------|-------|
| 1. Eric Jackson    | \$250 |
| 2. Patrick Griffin | \$150 |
| 3. John Nestler    | \$100 |

##### Female:

- |                    |       |
|--------------------|-------|
| 1. Emily Jackson   | \$250 |
| 2. Meghan Magennis | \$150 |
| 3. Erin Johnson    | \$100 |



New to Dominion Riverrock in 2011 were two Stand Up Paddleboard events – SUP Cross and SUP Enduro. Just like the kayak boatercross event, the SUP Cross took place right in the James River adjacent to Brown’s Island and headed down the VEPCO Levy rapids. Heats of four SUP’s raced head to head down the rapids.

SUP Enduro was a 4.5km (2.7 miles) endurance race in the Haxall Canal. One loop around the canal is 1.5km, so each participant was required to make three loops to complete the course.

**SUP Enduro**

Male:

- 1. Doug Ellis, Jr.           \$250
- 2. Craig Stephens       \$150
- 3. Greg Lew               \$100

Female:

- 1. Camille Smith           \$250
- 2. Cherie Rinckenberg   \$150
- 3. Amanda Des Roches   \$100

“This is first urban setting I’ve ever raced in,” said SUP Cross winner Doug Ellis of Virginia Beach, VA, who has been participating in the sport for about a year and a half. “It was really fun to be enclosed like that. It’s totally different than what I’m used to.”

**SUP Cross**

- 1. Patrick Griffin
- 2. Ben Moore
- 3. Jody Des Roches

**Red Bull Canal Crashers, the Sperry Top-Sider Kayak Boatercross and both the SUP Enduro and SUP Cross will return to Dominion Riverrock on May 18-19, 2012.**

**About Dominion Riverrock**

Dominion Riverrock is the East Coast’s premier outdoor lifestyle festival. The fest boasts a unique mix of sports, music and fun, set against the backdrop of Richmond’s downtown riverfront. The sports competitions this year included trail running, mountain biking, stand up paddleboarding, kayaking, bouldering, freestyle biking and Ultimate Air Dogs contests. There were also musical performances from high profile artists such Big Gigantic and Perpetual Groove along with food vendors and exhibits. Yonder Mountain String Band was scheduled to play Saturday evening, but the show was cancelled due to inclement weather.

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