



# Wings of America

American Indian Youth Development Programs

October 17, 2011

**PRESS RELEASE – FOR IMMEDIATE PUBLICATION**

## **Wings of America says "Thank You" to former Program Director, Shaun Martin**



Shaun Martin resigned as the Wings Program Director on August 22, 2011. When Wings originally hired Shaun as the Interim Program Director, we knew there would be a time in which Shaun would have to let Wings go in order to maintain his achievable status as a full-time teacher and Cross Country coach at Chinle High School, ultra marathon runner and not to mention being a full-time husband/dad to wife Melissa, son Maverick (3 yrs old) and the newest member to the family arriving in January, Isabel Nidiyilii (Sunflower) Martin.

Wings has been very fortunate to have him as our Program Director in 2010 and 2011. He has brought new insights to the Wings Coaches Clinic, being a Cross Country coach Shaun was able to present at the clinic and share his amazing achievements about his team; both boys and girls team won the 2010 State Championships in Arizona. Also in 2010 Shaun was named the National Federation of High School Sports Cross Country Western Coach of the YEAR and just recently named the 2011 Arizona County Teacher of the YEAR by the Arizona Rural Schools Association (ARSA). Shaun is also featured in the "Run to the East" documentary, by Moxie Pictures, now showing in film festivals across the country and recently has been spotlighted in the "Trail Runner" magazine (August 2011 issue) titled "Toward the Rising Sun". As you can see, Shaun has been very busy and still had time to place Wings in his schedule book. The Wings of America Board members and staff wish him and his family continued success and we want to say "Thank You" for your commitment and bringing the Wings programs to new heights!!!

*News UPDATE: Wings is proud to announce that Shaun will also be the men and women coach for the 2012 USATF National Junior Cross Country Championships.*

## **Wings of America welcomes new Program Director, Dustin Q. Martin**



Wings would like to welcome Dustin Quinn Martin as its new program director. A two-time USATF national team alumnus and former running and fitness camp facilitator, Dustin is no stranger to the Wings family. After graduating summa cum laude from Columbia University in May, Dustin begins his work in Santa Fe after spending the summer in NYC learning the textile printing industry and building a clothing company with a teammate from high school.

As Wings prepares to select its team for the 2012 National Cross Country Championships in St. Louis, Missouri, Dustin is excited to recruit and foster yet another group of elite Native athletes poised for success.

It was Dustin's performance in a Wings jersey in 2006 and 2007 that helped him earn the attention of college coaches across the nation. This attention eventually earned him an academic scholarship to Columbia and the chance to run as a Lion for four years. He cannot wait to use his new position as a vehicle to send more Native runners to college to do what they love most. Within the next year, Dustin hopes to expand Wings' programs to include more athletes outside of the Southwest and provide year-round incentives to elementary-aged kids making running strides toward their futures.