



A. Bumagat SFSU

John Robert “JR” Celski

Filipino/Polish American

Short Track Speed Skater

John Robert “JR” Celski (1990-) began using roller skates at the age of three and ice skates at the age of twelve. From age eight through his teenage years, he won many gold medals in world championships on roller and ice skates. When he was twenty years old, JR was badly injured and wondered if he was ever going to skate again. In speed skating, athletes have to dash around the ice at high speeds. They sometimes crash and cut each other with their sharp ice skates. Although he was hurt, JR did not give up his boyhood dream of becoming an Olympic champion. He skated in great pain and won a bronze Olympic medal in 2010.