



Ladies with Abilities participants Elaine Johnson and Julie Maloukis and ASC instructors Tara Gorman and Colleen Farrell take a break on Mt. Crested Butte.

## Adaptive Sports Center Upcoming Camp Offerings

The Adaptive Sports Center (ASC) has planned several winter camps, including ice-climbing, skiing, snowboarding, and an outing exclusively for women. Although exact dates and prices were undetermined at press time, camp descriptions include:

### Amputee High Adventure Weekend

Join the ASC for two full days of skiing (all levels) on Mt. Crested Butte and two days of professionally-guided ice-climbing in Ouray's world-renowned Ice Park. Participants may bring a friend or family member. Camp takes place in January and is limited to nine participants.

### Mono- and Bi-ski Fiesta:

This three-day camp brings together mono- and bi-skiers of all levels to experience beginner to extreme terrain on Mt. Crested Butte. Participants will have the opportunity to try out a variety of adaptive ski equipment during the weekend. Camp takes place in late February.

### Big Mountain Sessions: Snowboarding

A four-day intensive camp for advanced snowboarders includes challenging terrain at Mt. Crested Butte Resort and a backcountry trip to the nearby Elk Mountains, depending on conditions. Camp takes place in March.

### Ladies with Abilities

Ladies of all ages and abilities are invited to take part in this four-day, women-specific adventure ski camp. Each day begins with yoga, followed by skiing on Mt. Crested Butte. Healthy, homemade lunches are offered between ski lessons; evenings out on the town are optional. Nutrition and wellness information is included. Camp takes place in late March.

For more information, call ASC at (888) 349-2296 or visit [www.adaptivesports.org](http://www.adaptivesports.org).

For those interested in bringing a group to the Adaptive Sports Center in the winter of 2008-09, e-mail Chris Read at [cread@adaptivesports.org](mailto:cread@adaptivesports.org).

## Challenge Aspen Offers Daily Adventures Program

Challenge Aspen introduces the Daily Adventures Program through Aug. 31, welcoming adults and children (ages 10 and up) with disabilities to join the fun with a mix of day, evening, and overnight programs.

Daily Adventures provides the opportunity to join old friends and create new friendships through safe, exciting, fun, and empowering activities. Adaptive recreation and leisure activities include disk golf for teens and adults, a water skiing clinic, rafting on the upper Roaring Fork, fly fishing, arts and crafts, swimming, horseback riding, cross country and downhill handcycling, and trips to Challenge Aspen's Wilderness Ranch ropes course.

### Challenge Aspen Winter Camps

Oregon and Tennessee Schools for the Blind  
(Dec. 12-18, 2008)

2nd Annual Learn to Sit-Ski (Jan. 5-10, 2009)

13th Annual Mono Ski Camp (Jan. 15-22, 2009)

Shepherd Center Camp (Jan. 28-Feb. 2, 2009)

13th Annual VI Ski & Board Fest (Feb. 7-13, 2009)

Wichita Camp (Feb. 22-27, 2009)

Exeter Adaptive Ski Club (March 3-10, 2009)

For the complete calendar of events, visit [www.challengeaspen.org/calendar.cfm](http://www.challengeaspen.org/calendar.cfm). To register for one of Challenge Aspen's Daily Adventures or for more information on winter camps, call Laine Weinstein at (970) 923-0578, ext. 213 or e-mail [laine@challengeaspen.com](mailto:laine@challengeaspen.com).



## The Unrecables Go Rafting with ETC

The Unrecables will be going river rafting on the South Fork of the American River, an event sponsored and organized by Environmental Traveling Companions (ETC), Aug. 22-24, 2008. The trip deposit is \$100, due Aug. 1 and payable to ETC. Total cost is \$130 per person, which includes three meals on Saturday and two meals on Sunday. Visit [www.ectrips.org](http://www.ectrips.org) for more information.

The Unrecables monthly Social Hours are the second Tuesday evening at 6:30 pm at Mi Ranchito Family Restaurant in Culver City, Calif.

For more information or to download a newsletter or trip forms, e-mail [unrecables@earthlink.net](mailto:unrecables@earthlink.net) or visit <http://home.earthlink.net/~unrecables/>.



## Exploring with Common Ground Outdoor Adventures

Common Ground Outdoor Adventures is located in Northern Utah and provides year-round outdoor recreational opportunities for youth and adults with disabilities. Upcoming summer trips include climbing, white-water rafting, cycling, and camping to National Parks. Trips are adapted to meet the needs of all abilities. Accessible airport shuttles are available from Salt Lake International Airport to Logan, Utah. Equipment, meals during trips, and transportation from Logan are included in the cost. For more information or to sign up for activities, call (435) 713-0288 or visit [www.cgadventures.org](http://www.cgadventures.org).

Red Fish Lake Cycling and Camping, Aug. 19-22

Camp at the foot of the magnificent Sawtooth Mountains in Idaho and soak in hot springs along the Salmon River. There will be canoeing and fishing in Redfish Lake, and evening hikes around the lake. A bicycle tour of the valley will occur during the day; bike guides will be available for individuals with visual impairments.

Scholarships are available to persons who are blind or visually impaired. Up to \$200 may be awarded to each participant and may be used on multiple trips.

## Fall and Winter Activities at the Bart J. Ruggiere Adaptive Sports Center

Fall is a wonderful time to get out and enjoy all that Southern Vermont has to offer – paddling on flat water enjoying magnificent foliage, day trips down the Battenkill River for the more adventurous, handcycling, and more. The Bart Center has handcycles, boats, and equipment available.

The Bart Center also offers ski lessons at the Bromley Ski Resort and provides adaptive equipment and training.

Reservations are required. For more information, visit [www.bartcenter.com](http://www.bartcenter.com), call (802) 824-5522, ext. 430 (summer & fall (802) 447-1054) or e-mail [bartcenter@comcast.net](mailto:bartcenter@comcast.net).

NO LIMITS Bike Tour

The NO LIMITS bicycle tour will be Sept. 13, 2008. This metric century ride is open to all and has routes available for all abilities. There will be no charge for anyone participating with a handcycle. A barbecue also will be included. Online registration is available at [www.bikereg.com](http://www.bikereg.com).



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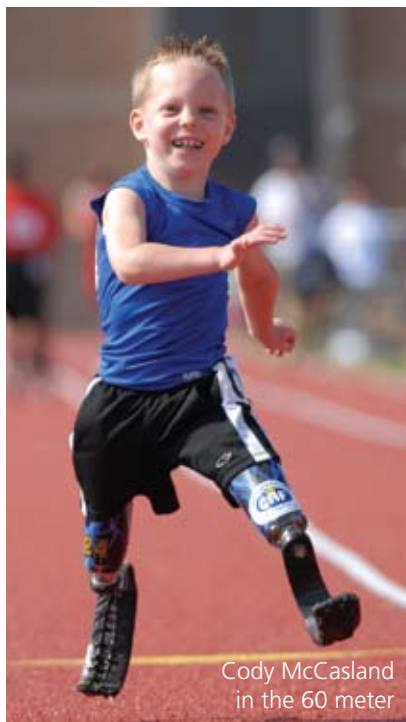
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## 9th Annual Endeavor Games Sets Record Numbers



Cody McCasland  
in the 60 meter

Photo courtesy of Willis Photography

Approximately 350 athletes from 28 states, Mexico, and Panama competed at the ninth annual Endeavor Games, June 5-8, 2008 at the University of Central Oklahoma (UCO) in Edmond.

Events included archery, 3-on-3 basketball, boccia, powerlifting, shooting, swimming, table tennis, tennis, and track & field. In partnership with the U.S. Paralympics, sport clinics were offered in archery, boccia, powerlifting, rowing, table tennis, sitting volleyball, and track &

field. National team coaches, athletes and Paralympians were brought in to conduct the clinics, allowing participants to learn from the best.

This year set a record for the number of military service members participating in the Endeavor Games, with 30 men and women being brought in through partnerships with Disabled Sports USA (DS/USA), the Wounded Warrior Project, and U.S. Paralympics Military Program.

"The Military Sport Camps are a great way for these Wounded Warriors to continue an active lifestyle through disabled sports," said Katrina Shaklee, Assistant Director of UCO Disabled Sports & Events. "UCO is proud to give back to these men and women that gave so much for our country."

The opening ceremony was a send-off party to the various U.S. Paralympic National Teams that were in attendance this year including archery, powerlifting, women's sitting volleyball, and track & field. These athletes received a standing ovation for their achievements.

"You could really feel the excitement in the air as we cheered on our U.S. athletes," said Shelly Ramsey, Endeavor Games coordinator. "It was great to have so many in attendance and share this with our community."

"This year was a great success and we look forward to expanding on great programs, such as mentoring," Ramsey said. "We want to serve our athletes on many levels, and mentoring is a great way to build those relationships for the betterment of sport."

The 10th Annual Endeavor Games will be held June 11-14, 2009 at the University of Central Oklahoma. For more information, visit [www.endeavorgames.com](http://www.endeavorgames.com) or contact (405) 974-3151.

## Double Amputee Captivates Instructors and Disabled Golfers at Seminar

Maine Handicapped Skiing (MHS) and the National Amputee Golf Association co-hosted a First Swing golf clinic at the Toddy Brook Golf Course in North Yarmouth June 2. First Swing clinics provide instruction to therapists to teach and encourage the disabled to learn or re-learn the game of golf.

The morning seminar was geared toward those that work with disabled athletes. Bob Wilson, executive director of the National Amputee Golf Association and a bilateral transtibial amputee, explained grip, stance, balance, and swing, all pertaining to disabilities such as amputations, stroke, and spinal cord injuries.

After the instructors practiced swinging with their eyes closed, on one foot, and with one arm, nine athletes with various physical disabilities joined them on the driving range, allowing the instructors to put the morning's lessons into practice. Athletes tried different grip devices, as well as an adaptive golf cart, which allowed wheelchair athletes to mimic a golf stance while still sitting.

"I might actually enjoy this and it's outside, too. I am showing my natural athletic ability. I haven't done that in years," said participant Nancy Peters, who has multiple sclerosis, a disease that can affect balance and stamina. The MHS snowshoe and golf programs offer Peters activities that she can do at her own pace and ability to accommodate the effects of her disability.

The First Swing event was sponsored in part by Central Maine Orthotics and Prosthetics, Maine Adaptive Golf, and the New England Rehabilitation Hospital.



Photo courtesy of Roy Coyle

Nancy Peters receives instruction from Bob Wilson.

## National Ability Center Announces New CEO

### Meeche White Retiring in September

Dale Schoon of Park City, Utah, was named chief executive officer of the National Ability Center (NAC) by its board of directors. Schoon will take over for NAC's founder and current CEO, Meeche White, who is stepping down in September after 23 years of service.

"I am overwhelmed by the confidence the board of directors showed in my selection, and it is an honor to have the



opportunity to work with Meeche White and the incredible staff who have made the National Ability Center a national and international leader in adaptive sports," Schoon said.

Schoon has spent the last nine years at the United States Ski and Snowboard Association (USSA), where his responsibilities have included operations, administrative management, financial and strategic planning.

"Dale comes highly recommended and is a talented and proven leader," said Mark Gaylord, NAC president. "He is the right person to lead the National Ability Center in its next phase of growth. He brings a wealth of experience and embodies the values that stand at the foundation of this incredible organization. We are lucky to have been able to locate such a strong talent so close to home."

"We're very excited to welcome someone of Dale's caliber as my successor," White said. "He really takes the National Ability Center's mission to heart, and considering his sports related background and passion for our programs, he is a great candidate to build upon our strong foundation and lead the National Ability Center into the future."



Cpl. Bill Congelton and Sgt. John Beville receive a mono-ski tune-up before hitting the slopes.

## SVAS Hosts Snowsports Camp for Wounded Warriors

Days of heavy snow mixed with days of warm sunshine created perfect conditions for a weeklong snowsports camp hosted by Sun Valley Adaptive Sports (SVAS) for Wounded Warriors.

"Learning to mono-ski pushed my physical limits beyond what I thought I could handle," said John Beville, an Army sergeant who served with a ground infantry team in Iraq. "But what encouraged me to move past my perceived limitations was learning to ski side-by-side with fellow soldiers and Marines. We pushed each other to overcome obstacles and achieve goals. It was the most difficult but inspiring thing I've done since my injury."

In the evenings, staff therapists conducted various innovative therapies in relaxed settings, sometimes over dinner or around a fire. This provided opportunities for warriors and their wives to share experiences and obstacles they face as they deal with emotional issues, adjustments at home, and long-term rehabilitation.

"All the activities I did made me realize I can live a more active, purposeful life, especially with my son," said Cpl. Bill Congelton, a combat engineer who lost the lower part of his leg and suffered spinal cord injuries after a roadside bomb exploded next to his Humvee during a reconnaissance mission in Iraq. "The entire event, especially the therapy sessions, was the key component of my recovery. It changed my life."

For more information on upcoming events, call (208) 726-9298, visit [www.svasp.org](http://www.svasp.org), or e-mail [tom@svasp.org](mailto:tom@svasp.org).

## Lakeshore Foundation Opens New Housing Facility

The Lakeshore Foundation, Birmingham, Ala., recently held a grand opening for its newly-renovated 58-bed housing facility for use by injured military personnel and their families participating in Lima Foxtrot programs, U.S. Olympic & Paralympic athletes, and youth program participants. The \$3.2 million renovation project took six months to complete.

"We are now able to offer a higher level of service to these injured heroes and U.S. athletes thanks to the generous support of so many private and corporate members in our community," said Jeff Underwood, Lakeshore Foundation

president. "The new housing facility provides the comfort, convenience, and amenities that our program participants deserve to make their stay in Birmingham more enjoyable."

The on-campus housing facility features updated living areas, a new kitchen and dining room, a commons area and a conference room.

Guests at the grand opening included injured military personnel, military leaders, U.S. Paralympic athletes, and donors who supported the building project.