



For Immediate Release

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**8 ATHLETES SELECTED TO REPRESENT COLORADO AS PART OF TEAM USA
AT THE 2007 SPECIAL OLYMPICS WORLD SUMMER GAMES**

Denver, CO – Eight athletes from Colorado have been selected to represent the United States at the 2007 Special Olympics World Summer Games in Shanghai, China. As part of Team USA, these athletes will compete against athletes from more than 150 countries around the world. These World Games, held in Asia for the second time, are scheduled to run from October 2-11, 2007.

Bowling:

Lorraine Grimm – Longmont, CO
Bryan Terry – Aurora, CO

Athletics:

Florence Westervelt – Denver, CO
Kenneth Jones – Ft. Collins, CO

Aquatics:

Rayme Allen – Denver, CO
Sondra Pozner – Denver, CO

Bocce:

Bill Malone Jr. – Centennial, CO
Beth Pasterkamp – Englewood, CO

Team USA will compete in 16 different Olympic-type sports: Aquatics, Athletics, Basketball, Bocce, Bowling, Cycling, Equestrian, Golf, Gymnastics, Powerlifting, Roller Skating, Sailing, Soccer, Softball, Tennis and Volleyball. Special Olympics athletes not competing in World Games will also play an important leadership role by acting as officials, assistant coaches, reporters and spokespeople.

Mindy Watrous, Special Olympics Colorado President & CEO notes, "This is a once in a lifetime opportunity for our athletes. They will have an amazing adventure traveling to China and meeting other athletes from around the world who share their vision, hopes and dreams. It is also a fantastic opportunity to share the mission of Special Olympics and to draw attention to the amazing individuals – the athletes – who are the heart and soul of this worldwide program."

The vision for the 2007 Special Olympics World Summer Games is to embrace the diversity of all individuals' abilities worldwide and celebrate all differences. Through the World Games, Special Olympics athletes transcend the boundaries of geography, nationality, political philosophy, gender, age, culture and religion. It is the common pursuit of achievement, the shared moment of victory, which brings even the most diverse people together. This spirit of unity on the playing fields, in families and communities throughout the world makes for a better way of life for all.

About Special Olympics Colorado

Special Olympics Colorado was founded in 1969. Special Olympics provides people with intellectual disabilities continuing opportunities to develop fitness, demonstrate courage, and experience joy as they participate in the sharing of gifts and friendship with other athletes, their families and the community. There is no cost to participate in Special Olympics. More than 8,000 athletes from across Colorado train and compete in over 20 Olympic-type sports year-round.

About Special Olympics Inc.

Founded in 1968 by Eunice Kennedy Shriver, Special Olympics provides people with intellectual disabilities continuing opportunities to develop fitness, demonstrate courage, and experience joy as they participate in the sharing of gifts and friendship with other athletes, their families and the community. There is no cost to participate in Special Olympics. More than 2.25 million athletes in more than 150 countries train and compete in 30 Olympic-type summer and winter sports.

For more information about Special Olympics Colorado, visit www.specialolympicsco.org or call 720.359.3115. To learn more about the 2007 Special Olympics World Summer Games please visit www.specialolympicsteamusa.org or www.2007specialolympics.com.

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