



Drew Bledsoe, ex-Pats QB, joins 2008 Special Olympics Oregon Winter Games Snow Sports

BEND, OR—Former New England Patriots quarterback Drew Bledsoe will be the featured speaker at Special Olympics Oregon’s Winter Games Ceremonies in Bend on March 1.

Bledsoe, a native of Washington, graduate of Washington State University and veteran of 14 years in the National Football League, has also committed to participate in The Polar Plunge on the evening of Feb. 29. The Polar Plunge is a fundraiser for Special Olympics Oregon, through its Law Enforcement Torch Run program.

Bledsoe is a resident of Bend, where he lives with his wife Maura and four children. Since his retirement a year ago from pro football, Bledsoe has focused on his Walla Walla, Wash., vineyard, The Flying B Vineyard, and a coffee roasting business. He is active in many philanthropic organizations, including his Drew Bledsoe Foundation.

During his long NFL career, Bledsoe led the Patriots into post-season play and even to the Super Bowl, mostly on the strength of his throwing arm. Few quarterbacks in the history of the game have thrown more passes or completed more than Bledsoe. He holds the career NFL record for most touchdown passes in overtime periods. Complete details of his football career

can be found at http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Drew_Bledsoe, the Wikipedia entry on Bledsoe. His personal website is at <http://www.DrewBledsoe.com>.

Below are details of the Polar Plunge and State Games Ceremonies, where Drew Bledsoe will be making appearances.

2008 LETR Polar Plunge

WHERE: Deschutes River, Bend, across from the Old Mill District

WHEN: Friday, Feb. 29, 6:30 p.m.

CONTACT: Allison Ellermeier, LETR: 503-248-0600, ext.13; Dan Cook, public relations, 503-248-0600, ext. 23

DETAILS: Please visit www.soor.org

State Winter Games Ceremonies and Victory Dance

WHERE: Summit High School, 2855 NW Clearwater Dr., Bend, 97701

SCHEDULE:

5:00pm– 6:45pm	Dinner and souvenir sales
6:45pm	Staging for Games Ceremonies Begins
7:00pm	Parade of Athletes and Games Ceremonies
7:10 pm	Drew Bledsoe speaks
8:00pm - 9:30pm	Dance and souvenir sales

For more on Special Olympics Oregon and State Winter Games activities, please visit www.soor.org.