



Arizona Spinal Cord  
Injury Association

# AZSCIA E-NEWS

February 2007

*"A monthly update  
on the happenings  
and upcoming  
events in the  
association."*

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We're on the Web!  
[www.azspinal.org](http://www.azspinal.org)

## Spinal Cord Injury Retreat Fundraiser

On Sunday February 18<sup>th</sup> from 4:00PM-8:00PM the Mesa Elks Club will be hosting a spaghetti dinner and silent auction in collaboration with the Arizona Spinal Cord Injury Association. The event is set to raise money for AzSCIA's 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Spinal Cord Injury Retreat at Whispering Hope Ranch in Payson.

The evening will include a live performance by Rain n' Country, a spaghetti dinner, and a silent auction of donated items. Dinner will be \$5 per person and all proceeds will go directly to financing the retreat, and providing scholarships for those interested in attending.

Mesa Buckhorn Elks Lodge is located at 6718 East Avalon Street in Mesa. The cross streets of the Mesa Buckhorn Elks Lodge are Power Road and Main Street.

Please mark your calendar for the 2nd Annual Spinal Cord Injury Retreat on May 17 - 20, 2007. Support our annual event by attending this spaghetti dinner and auction.

St. Joseph's Hospital and Wal-Mart Foundation has both donated \$,1000 respectively for the annual retreat.

For further information please Kayla Cheatham at 602-239-5929 or the Elk's Lodge at 480-981-3155 or email [micaela@azspinal.org](mailto:micaela@azspinal.org).

## Christopher Reeve Paralysis Foundation Quality Of Life Grant

We received a grant from the Christopher Reeve Paralysis Foundation to be used for our programs.

On behalf of the Association, Renee Tyree and Vangie Mortenson presented \$500 checks to each of the Tucson Lobos and the Women's UofA basketball teams on Tuesday January 23rd at the UofA Disability Resource Center in Tucson. Coach Ray Lopez, Tucson Lobos and Sarah Binsfeld accepted \$500 checks each.

Sherry Santee gave a tour of the new Disability Resource Center and the gym has many upgraded equipment. The gym is open to students and the community. For more information on the gym facility, please contact Sherry Santee at 520-626-5490.



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## Jacob Pruitt's Story

Prom and Graduation season is here. Director of the Arizona Department of Liquor Licenses and Control, Leesa Berens Morrison, and the Arizona Governor's Office of Highway Safety have joined forces to keep our kids safe.

### Jacob's Journey

Jacob was 18 when he chose to drink and drive. His crash rendered him a quadriplegic and forever changed his life. Jacob wants to tell his story in person to his peers, encouraging them to "think of Jake before you make a mistake."

Jacob wants to get the message out to kids in middle and high schools. The Department of Liquor Licenses and Control has produced a powerful 15 minute CD, entitled Jacob's Journey, chronicling Jacob before and after his crash. Jacob's Journey is available NOW At NO COST. If you know of any school that would like to schedule a special assembly with a personal appearance from Jacob or to request a free CD Contact:

Special Investigator Cheryl Judd  
Phone: 602-542-9074  
E-mail: [cheryl.judd@azliquor.gov](mailto:cheryl.judd@azliquor.gov)

Help keep our kids safe!

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## NBA/NWBA All-Star Wheelchair Classic To Feature Top Players From Across The Country

Twenty-two of the top wheelchair basketball players from across the country will participate in the 2007 NBA/National Wheelchair Basketball Association (NWBA) All-Star Wheelchair Classic on Thursday, Feb. 15 at 5 p.m. PST at the Mandalay Bay Resort & Casino South Convention Center during NBA All-Star Jam Session presented by adidas.

In addition, the NWBA All-Stars will host their annual basketball clinic on Wednesday Feb. 14 at 5 p.m. PST, for over 20 junior wheelchair athletes at Doolittle Community Center in Las Vegas as part of the NBA Cares All-Star Caravan.

2007 NBA/NWBA All-Star Wheelchair Classic will feature the top wheelchair athletes selected from wheelchair teams that are members of the NWBA. The players, selected by the NWBA, are divided into East and West All-Stars. For more information on the NWBA go to [www.NWBA.org](http://www.NWBA.org).

**TEAM ROSTERS**

#### **WBA East All-Star Team**

Charlotte Rollin' Bobcats-Mike Hudson  
Chicago Wheelchair Bulls-Curtis Lease  
Dallas Wheelchair Mavericks-Jeff Glasbrenner  
Dallas Wheelchair Mavericks-Paul Schulte  
Dallas Wheelchair Mavericks-Steve Welch  
Magee Sixers Spokesmen-Valdez Bradley  
Miami Heat Wheels-Carlos Ocasio  
Milwaukee Wheelchair Bucks-Gavin Cloy  
Milwaukee Wheelchair Bucks-Jeremy Lade  
NY Rollin' Knicks-Kevin Grant  
NY Rollin' Knicks-Dave Snowden  
*Coach-Steve Wilson*

#### **NWBA West All-Star Team**

Denver Rolling Nuggets-Jeff Nelms  
Denver Rolling Nuggets-Paul Capasso  
Denver Rolling Nuggets-Jeff Townsend  
Golden State Road Warriors-Chuck Gill  
Golden State Road Warriors-Trooper Johnson  
Houston Rolling Rockets-Juan Rios  
Phoenix Banner Suns-Tommy Schroeder  
San Antonio Spurs II-David Gonzales  
San Antonio Spurs II-Willie Jackson  
Utah Wheelin' Jazz-Jeff Griffin  
Utah Wheelin' Jazz-Mike Schlappi  
*Coach-Paul Jackson*

NBA Cares is the league's social responsibility initiative that builds on the NBA's long tradition of addressing important social issues in the United States and around the world. During the first year of NBA Cares, teams, current and former players, and the league office contributed 250,000 hours of hands-on volunteer service, raised more than \$40 million for charity, and created 135 places where kids and families can live, learn or play. NBA Cares works with internationally-recognized youth-serving programs that support education, youth and family development, and health-related causes, including: UNICEF; Reading Is Fundamental; Habitat for Humanity; Boys & Girls Clubs of America; Feed the Children, Special Olympics, KaBOOM!, Make-A-Wish Foundation, and many others.

National Wheelchair Basketball Association is comprised of 181 basketball teams within twenty-two conferences. The NWBA was founded in 1948, and to consists of men's, women's, intercollegiate, and youth teams throughout the United States of America and Canada.

All-Star Jam Session presented by adidas is the ultimate destination for basketball fans who want to experience the thrill and excitement of NBA All-Star 2007. Jam Session is the world's largest interactive basketball theme park featuring over 400,000 square feet of non-stop NBA All-Star action. Jam Session features over 30 basketball-themed attractions where fans can compare their hand and shoe sizes with those of their favorite NBA players; compete against friends at on-court skills challenges; watch youngsters slam dunk and hit three-pointers at the Kids Zone, and see NBA and WNBA players and Legends.

Jam Session also offers an extensive trading card and collectibles area and an NBA Store where fans can purchase NBA and NBA All-Star merchandise. Center Court will host the NBA All-Star Practice presented by Toyota, where fans can see the East and West squads practice for the 2007 NBA All-Star Game; highlight the emerging talent of D-League players during the D-League All-Star Game; and feature today's celebrities emulating the skills and styles of their favorite NBA and WNBA players during the McDonald's NBA All-Star Celebrity Game presented by 2KSports. Center Court provides fans the chance to get up close and personal with their favorite NBA stars and celebrities.

Fans can call 1-866-NBA-JAMS or log on to [NBA.com/jamsession](http://NBA.com/jamsession) for more information on NBA All-Star Jam Session.

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## **Banner Wheelchair Suns 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Basketball Roundup Wheelchair Basketball Tournament**

**Broadway Recreation Center  
59 E. Broadway Road  
Mesa, Arizona**

### POOL A

Golden State Warriors  
LA Lakers  
Albuquerque Kings

### POOL B

LA Clippers Chairmen  
Banner Wheelchair Suns  
Tucson Lobos

#### **Saturday February 17, 2007**

|        |          |  |
|--------|----------|--|
| Game 1 | 8:30 AM  | LA Lakers vs. Albuquerque Kings                |
| Game 2 | 10:00 AM | Banner Wheelchair Suns vs. LA Clippers         |
| Game 3 | 11:30 AM | Golden State Warriors vs. Albuquerque Kings    |
| Game 4 | 1:00 PM  | LA Clippers vs. Tucson Lobos                   |
| Game 5 | 2:30 PM  | Golden State Warriors vs. LA Lakers            |
| Game 6 | 4:00 PM  | Banner Wheelchair Suns vs. Tucson Lobos        |
| Game 7 | 5:30 PM  | Winner Pool A vs. 2 <sup>nd</sup> Place Pool B |
| Game 8 | 7:00 PM  | Winner Pool B vs. 2 <sup>nd</sup> Place Pool A |

#### **Sunday February 18, 2007**

|         |          |   |
|---------|----------|---|
| Game 9  | 9:00 AM  | 5 <sup>th</sup> Place vs. 6 <sup>th</sup> Place |
| Game 10 | 10:30 AM | Loser Game 7 vs. Loser Game 8                   |
| Game 11 | 12 Noon  | Winner Game 7 vs. Winner Game 8                 |

First team listed is home team and will wear light jersey. If needed tie breaker will be least points allowed. Contact for more information Gary W. Venjohn at 602-790-7909 or email gwvenjohn@cox.net.

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## Arizona's 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Traumatic Brain Injury Survivor & Family Conference

This year's conference will feature a 2-day track for Arizona's Educators designed by the Arizona Department of Education – Exceptional Student Services.

Conference: Tuesday, May 1, 2007  
Educator Track: May 1 & 2, 2007  
Black Canyon Conference Center  
9440 N 25<sup>th</sup> Ave  
Phoenix, AZ 85021

Sponsored by the Arizona Governor's Council on Spinal and Head Injuries, Arizona Center for Disability Law, Arizona Department of Education – Exceptional Student Services, Navajo Nation – Office of Special Education and Rehabilitation Services & Arizona Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities.

Visit [www.azheadspine.org](http://www.azheadspine.org) for more information on the conference or call 623-476-7073.

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## Upcoming e-news information.....

If there is anything that you would like to share with your fellow members, please contact Vangie Mortenson. She will ensure that the information will be posted on the e-news.

## THANK YOU!