

**Joel Hendrix**

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**From:** Joel Hendrix [jhendrix@riseadventures.org]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 20, 2008 4:30 PM  
**To:** jhendrix@riseadventures.org  
**Subject:** News from RISE Adventures

# RISE Above & Beyond

A monthly publication provided by RISE Adventures, Inc.  
PO Box 548, Forney, TX 75126-0548

**Volume 2  
Number 1**

**January 15, 2008**

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# **HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

## **February Basketball Tournaments**

THESE TWO BASKETBALL TOURNAMENTS ARE THE FIRST RISE EVENTS OF 2008.

The Deadman Center on the SMU Campus is an awesome venue. There is plenty of seating and admission is free. Set your calendars and we hope to see all of you there to support these wheelchair athletes.



## **Our Mission**

"To help persons with physical challenges gain independence through a learning experience in adaptive outdoor adventures and sporting programs"

RISE Above and Beyond is a monthly publication provided by RISE Adventures, Inc. This publication will be sent out on the 15th of each

month. If you have any pictures, articles, events or fundraisers you would like us to publish, please submit them to [Joel Hendrix](#) by the the 10th day of the month. Any information obtained after this date will be published in the following issue.

## Our Sponsors



To become a sponsor and have your logo here access the following link...

[Our Sponsors](#)

## January Birthdays

Curt Simonds  
Brenda Badillo  
Nicolas Forrester  
Tristan Bruner  
Hannah Hughes  
Kaleena Poetschke  
Rebecca Randolph

## Resources

[RISE Adventures](#)  
[Adaptive Adventures](#)  
[Adaptive Information Resource](#)  
[Adaptive Water Sports](#)  
[Allumed](#)  
[Big D Cats](#)  
[BlazeSports](#)  
[BlueSky Designs](#)  
[Camp Craig Allen](#)  
[Dallas All Sports](#)  
[Dallas Junior Wheelchair Mavs](#)  
[Disabled Sports USA](#)  
[IFDS](#)  
[Lift-Aids](#)  
[Lone Star PVA](#)  
[JobEnable](#)  
[National Accessibility Center](#)  
[NCPAD](#)  
[NCPAD Organizations](#)  
[Neuro Fitness Foundation](#)

Dallas Junior Wheelchair Mavericks  
Presents:

# ABC MEDICAL

## RISE

Southwest Conference  
Junior Division Championships

**February 2 9am-5pm**  
**February 3 9am-1pm**

SMU Dedman Center  
6000 Airline Road  
Dallas, Texas 75275

[www.jrwcmavs.org](http://www.jrwcmavs.org)  
[www.ABChomemedical.com](http://www.ABChomemedical.com)  
[www.riseadventures.org](http://www.riseadventures.org)

**COME SEE THE FASTEST GAME ON FOUR WHEELS!**

For more information about either of the tournaments, please contact Paul Gray, 469.762.5075 or [pgray@riseadventures.org](mailto:pgray@riseadventures.org).

[Partners Resource Network](#)  
[POWER](#)  
[Sail Dallas SBANT](#)  
[Special Care & Career Services](#)  
[Spinal Cord Injury Information Network](#)  
[Texas Parks & Wildlife](#)  
[UCO Wellness Center](#)  
[Y.O.Ranch](#)

## Coming In February

- ABC/RISE Southwest Conference Junior Division Championship
- ABC NWBA RISE Tournament of Champions
- 2008 RISE Program Schedule



**2008**

**ABC NWBA RISE Tournament of CHAMPIONS**

Arkansas Rollin' Razorbacks  
 Champaign Fire  
 Dallas (ABC) Mavericks (National Champions)  
 San Antonio Spurs  
 University of Wisconsin at Whitewater Warhawks  
 (Intercollegiate National Champions)  
 Utah Jazz

**SMU (Dedman Center)**  
 6000 Airline Road  
 Dallas, TX 75205

**MATCH ORDER**

**FRIDAY February 22nd**

	VISITOR	vs.	HOME
6:30 p.m.	Jazz	vs.	Mavericks (webcast)
8:00 p.m.	Warhawks	vs.	Spurs

**SATURDAY February 23rd**

9:00 a.m.	Spurs	vs.	Razorbacks
10:30 a.m.	Fire	vs.	Mavericks
Noon	Razorbacks	vs.	Warhawks (webcast)
1:30 p.m.	Fire	vs.	Jazz
3:00 p.m.	TBA (# 3 vs. #3)		
4:30 p.m.	TBA (#2 vs. #2)		
6:00 p.m.	Championship Game (webcast)		

Court will be available 30 minutes prior to tipoff

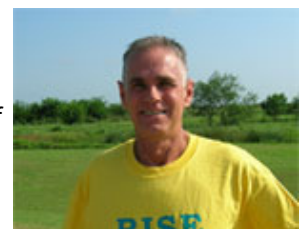
## TEAM RISE Volunteers

We still have some slots to fill for the basketball tournaments. Please contact Joel Hendrix if you are available, [jhendrix@riseadventures.org](mailto:jhendrix@riseadventures.org).

As RISE Adventures continues to grow we continue to need quality volunteers. We are adding new volunteers daily but with all of the programs and activities we can always use more. If you are interested in volunteering please go to our website and [Join Us](#).

## Letter from the CEO

A new year brings new promise and excitement for all of us involved with RISE. The RISE Board of Directors (BOD) is very active in moving forward to accomplish our very important mission. Steve Carlson, Joel Hendrix, and I



developed a strong foundation for the organization with a lot of help from a number of other folks in 2007.

I have turned the organization over to the BOD. They now control every aspect of what we do. At their first meeting the officers were elected and numerous committees were set up to address specific areas of opportunity:

Chairman- Abu Yilla, PH.D. Department of Kinesiology, UTA  
 Secretary- Henk Kool/ Secretary, MSc, MBA, Product Manager, Halliburton  
 Treasurer- Gabriel Dominguez, M. S. Transition Counselor/Texas Department of Assistive Rehabilitation Services

I would like to thank each one of these individuals for their belief in the RISE mission and for volunteering their valuable time and effort to our cause. I will remain as the full time volunteer Chief Executive Officer for the foreseeable future. We have so many opportunities in front of us; I am even more excited about the road ahead.

Our outdoor activities have slowed a bit over the winter. We recently got involved in supporting two major basketball events in February. Please check out the brochures in this edition of our newsletter and I hope to see every one of you at both of these tournaments. We need to show our support for these gifted wheelchair athletes competing with other teams from around the country.

I have been inundated with requests from other organizations to collaborate on numerous events and activities this year and hope to work with every single one of them. In 2008 RISE will only focus on our specific programs. We will have a minimum of 10 active weekly and bi-weekly programs starting in March. We will collaborate on events and activities with other groups. Our full schedule will be published on February 15th. We actually have completed our Draft 2008 schedule but other groups have not completed theirs and we do not want to overlap with other highly recognized groups activities.

I hope to see all of you in February at the basketball tournaments! Let's all support our mission in promoting wellness and physical activity.

Paul Gray/CEO/RISE Adventures, Inc.

## Letter from the Program Director



Here comes the sun... Well, not quite yet but it will not be long until nice weather returns to North Texas. We have planned a more extensive program schedule for 2008. There is a great opportunity to expand our equipment base for all of our programs. I have a great volunteer staff of program directors that have helped me establish this curriculum.

With our new board of directors I have the needed support to expand our presence and to fulfill our mission at a much higher level. My concentration for 2008 is on RISE Programs. We are in the process of completing our Member Evaluation System that will be used to monitor the results of each person that participates in every program. We have an oversight committee that will evaluate the progress of each program on a quarterly basis. With this infrastructure in place, I am excited about our potential for not only this year, but many more years to come.

I also update the website twice a month and also complete this newsletter. There are some new features on the site so please visit and let me know what you think:

- Communication features include MySpace, Facebook, a Guestbook, and a Blog.
- Donations include a personal donation feature as well as donated equipment. The equipment will be given to a person in need. If you have old equipment you would like to donate please let me know. We have a dozen wheelchairs that were donated by Allumed Medical that will be on the site soon.
- I will have a full list of programs and events on the calendar in February.

I can use any comments or help you can offer so please let me know.

Joel Hendrix/Program Director/ RISE Adventures, Inc.

## **RISE Board of Directors Meeting**

December 18, 2007



Top Row/left to right; Curt Simonds, Wayne Holt, Jacque Stauffer, Henk Kool, Gabriel Dominguez, Charles Moses  
Bottom Row/left to right; Rick Brauer, Kerry Morris, Abu Yilla, Jackie Bartels, Lea Stewart

## **17<sup>th</sup> Annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration**

January 14-18, 2008

RISE participated with Frito Lay in celebrating MLK week on Monday, January 14th. An obstacle course was built at their corporate headquarters in Plano, Texas. Employees were asked to navigate the course while sitting in a wheelchair.

The first obstacle was opening a very small door and proceeding through it and then making sure it was completely shut. The next step was to go to a desk and pick up their items for a very important meeting they were late for. Navigating through cones they then arrived at another table where they placed the items on a desk. The participants then proceeded to a ramp built to simulate a curb. Only three employees were able to overcome this obstacle. The final step was to make it through a simulated small hallway with articles on the floor.

There was a large employee turnout and everyone had a new found understanding of what it is like to be in a wheelchair in the workplace. Thanks to all that participated and especially Frito Lay and PepsiCo for allowing RISE to further our mission by working with corporate America in the hiring of persons with disabilities.





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