



Rock On

LET ME WIN,
BUT IF I CAN-
NOT WIN, LET
ME BE BRAVE IN
THE ATTEMPT

AREA EVENTS

- Skating 11/14
- Area Bowling 12/7
- Area Basketball Jan 9 Swance
- Bill Silvers Basketball 1/16
- GAC/ motorized activities 1/11
- Winter Games 1/19-21
- Track and Field/ April 4

Ideas for this newsletter? Please Contact Vicki Fair @ 770-761-3832

Have you been wondering how you can volunteer for Special Olympics?

Here is a list of jobs: Softball, Track and Field, Basketball, and Bocce Coaches. Thanks to Snapping Shoals we have new Floor hockey equipment. If you'd like to be a part of volunteering for RSO call Stephanie McCrary @770-761-0513

FALL 2007 FOCUS ON VOLUNTEER ISSUE

Volunteering for RSO

The success of Rockdale Special Olympics depends on volunteers. Our volunteer's make it possible for our athletes to train in their events, to compete at local competitions, to travel and stay at overnight competitions, and to work fundraisers so that our program may continue successfully. We have so many outstanding volunteers who are dedicated to our program and athletes. Their hard work and dedication is appreciated much more than they can imagine. Rockdale Special Olympic athletes are so grateful to all of their volunteers. Through Special Olympics, athletes are given an

opportunity to be successful in their attempt, and through this athletes build self esteem and



are truly proud of themselves and their peers. They thrive on their personal success in their events and will only continue so with continued volunteer support. Thank you to all of our outstanding volunteers on behalf of the athletes and the Rockdale Special Olympics Management Team.

Rachel Fisher
Co-Secretary/MOIID Special Education Teacher at RCHS

(Here volunteer, Rachel Fisher with her two daughters who are trying to share the spotlight with their famous uncle Dylan who is the fourth place winner for shot put)

Athlete Insider

Cameshia Jackson, a 15 year old student at Rockdale High is on the RSO Bowling Team. She enjoys track and field as well as skating. Last year at winter games the bowling team won 1st Place in the state! Cameshia says it's not only fun, but funny too. For instance, one time her teammate sat down and smushed a Reese's Peanut Butter Cup! Another time, Cameshia launched her shoe halfway down

the bowling alley! Hum, maybe she deserves the sneaky sneaker award!

Cameshia says that "Volunteering is when you help someone." Cameshia said if she ever volunteers for Special Olympics, she would help skaters and bowlers with their shoes and escort kids to the bathroom. She makes a good point: Volunteering is simple, little acts of kindness. It's like the quote, "To the world you may only be one person,

but to one person you may be the world!!" Thanks Cameshia!

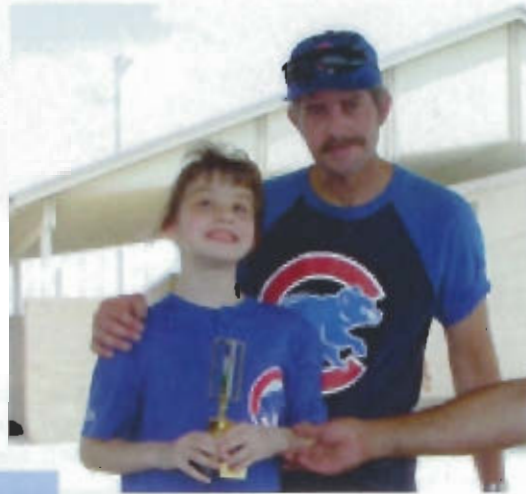


Sharks and Cubs: Good Combo for Coach

Let's Go Sharks!!

That's what the team shouts, at the end of swim practice. The ringleader Daryl Shadrix. Affectionately known as Coach Daryl, he has coached two swim teams, for three years and has been a Miracle League Coach for 11 years. Some Saturday's he goes straight from the pool to the diamond. He is serious about training, but never loses his warmth or ability to have fun with his athletes.

In fact, Daryl says that hearing his athletes cut up reminds him of his locker room days! He feels that "team camara-



derie and a sense of accomplishment are the biggest rewards of competing in Special Olympics." He also enjoys seeing parents' interaction in the bleachers, getting to know one another and finding common ground.

There was a time when Daryl had to coach himself. You see, when a baseball he threw, struck a wheelchair, it worried him. "It's just spit, it's just a wheelchair" he reminded himself after that. Come out and volunteer; you will find funny new ways to say something inspirational too!!

Samantha Simonton has played for 4 years with the Cubs.



Getting Carried Away at Track and Field

Feels soo good!! Here is 1st place winner Jonathan Johnson, 3rd place winner, Matt Maddox, and mystery man, in 2nd place; all winners at 2006 Track and Field Competition at Reid Stadium in April. If you can tell us the name of the 'mystery man' who won 2nd please call Vicki Fair at 770 761-3832. You will receive a gift certificate to Chick-Fil-A and recognition in the next RSO newsletter! Horraah for our Athletes!!!

Swimmers and Winners (Fins not Shown!)

The Rockdale Co. Sharks represented Rockdale County at the State games for Special Olympics held at Emory University in May. Pictured are: B—Lindsay Freeman, Morgan Wright, Matasha McCrary, Jamar Williams, Ryan Shadrix, and Coach Daryl Shadrix. F—Claire McGiboney, Michele Ayers, Bethany Beech, Melissa Hoffman, and Missy Rascoe. Not pictured is Randy Oaks and assistant coach Vicki Fair. Athletes brought back 5 gold medals, 4 silver, and 4 bronze, as well as two 4th and one fifth place ribbons.

We applaud these fine athletes, their families, and their coaches! To find out more, log onto <http://rockdalespecialolympics.org/>.

