

# Triumph



Special Olympics New York • FEBRUARY 2004

## Ten-Year-Old "Pays It Forward" to Special Olympics

New York City boy's \$60 donation spurs BE LIKE JAKE giving campaign, which raises \$1,000 in first hour.

**H**ow much of a difference can a 10-year-old make in society? A big difference if you're talking about a New York City boy named Jake...

The fourth-grader's "Pay It Forward" mentality has impacted Special Olympics New York so much that the organization has launched a statewide BE LIKE JAKE campaign.

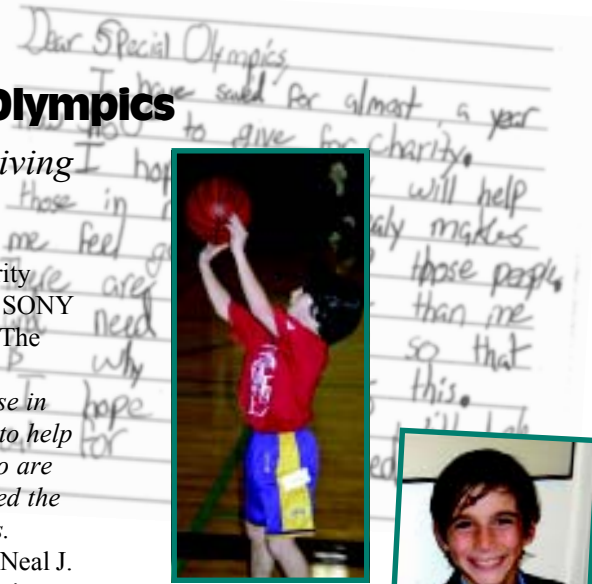
"Every week my parents give my sister and me a \$3 allowance," Jake said. "We get to spend \$1 on whatever we want, we have to put \$1 in savings and we have to set aside \$1 to give to charity."

Jake chose to give his 2003 charity savings to SONY and, in December, SONY received a letter and \$60 from Jake. The letter, in part, read:

*I hope this money will help those in need. It really makes me feel good to help those people. There are people who are less fortunate than me and who need the money, so that is why I've done this.*

"That's inspiring, isn't it?" said Neal J. Johnson, President and Chief Executive Officer of SONY, when asked what he thought about Jake's contribution. "Jake is

*Continued P. 5*



Ten-year-old Jake inspired Special Olympics New York's BE LIKE JAKE campaign.

## Fans Will Enjoy "One-Stop Watching" at the Winter Games

Ellenville-based competition will feature six sports, including Snowshoeing, in one location.

**C**an't get enough of your favorite winter sports? Then you should make plans to check out the 2004 Special Olympics New York Winter Games, sponsored by Provident Bank. The Games will take place Feb. 20 and 21 at Ellenville's Nevele Grande Resort & Country Club.

The 2004 Winter Games will feature



nearly 1,000 Special Olympics athletes and coaches competing in six sports: Alpine and Nordic Skiing, Floor Hockey (team and skills), Figure Skating, Snowshoeing and Speed Skating. Olympic-style rules apply to the events.

"Special Olympics athletes are dedicated, focused competitors

and they love fan support, so being a fan is always a rewarding experience," said Pete Lawrence, SONY's director of Competition. "However, there's an added draw for fans this year: Everything is right at the Nevele. From Opening Ceremonies to the competition to Closing Ceremonies, it's all within walking distance. So if you spend a few hours at the Nevele, you'll be able to see all of our winter sports. And you'll see exactly what Special Olympics athletes are capable of."

*Continued P. 7*

## The 2004 Special Olympics New York Winter Games are supported by:

Statewide sponsors New York Lottery and New York State United Teachers; leading sponsor Provident Bank; Hydro Aluminum; and Kaz, Inc.

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Find up-to-date information on our official Web site, [www.specialolympicsNY.org](http://www.specialolympicsNY.org), and visit [www.sosshopping.com](http://www.sosshopping.com)

# A Message from the President

Neal J. Johnson is President & CEO of Special Olympics New York, Inc.



**F**or the past 18 months – and more intensely for the past six months – a devoted group of volunteers and staff have developed a plan to convert an 11-county area made up of

a comprehensive and consistent program throughout the state. At the same time, the restructuring positions all of us to improve our efficiency in all business functions, such as fund-raising, public awareness, competition, and volunteer recruitment and retention.

The new region – and the process of creating it – also reinforces the fact that the mission of Special Olympics New York could not be delivered without volunteers. I can't talk about any initiative of ours, especially the new Genesee Region,

without praising the efforts of our volunteers. Certainly, SONY staff members provided key input, but without the volunteers, this restructuring would never have happened.

In Genesee, volunteers like Board member Mike Petramalo,

David McEneaney, Larry Johnson, Martha Pachuta, Steve Marshall, Linda Steinmetz, and many more from throughout the region, have spent countless hours charting a course to success.

They say a rising tide floats all boats. Thanks to the efforts of these committed volunteers, hopefully the athletes of the Genesee Region – and the mission of Special Olympics – will enjoy smooth sailing for years to come. ■



## Special Olympics New York Genesee Region

local programs into a new and more efficient regional Special Olympics program.

The new **Genesee Region of Special Olympics New York** is the second such region to form since our statewide organizational restructuring was recommended by a special task force and authorized by the Board of Directors. Long Island was the first region.

The Genesee Region combines former area

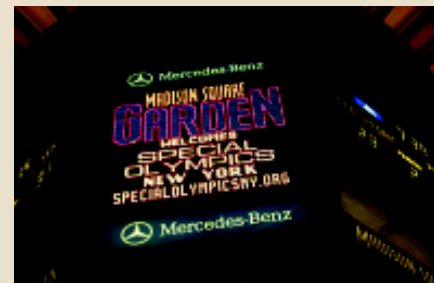
programs that stretched from the shores of Lake

Ontario south to the Pennsylvania border. Now, instead of these local programs acting independently, they will act as one (they will “row in the same direction,” as someone put it), which will ultimately benefit the 3,000 existing athletes they currently serve and many more in the future.

The creation of the Genesee Region advances our goal to reach out to more athletes while providing those athletes with

## Nassau Starz Shine at Madison Square Garden

*Special Olympics athletes hold exhibition Basketball game.*



SONY Staff / Doreen Hand

**D**uring halftime of a Jan. 10 Big East matchup, a group of Special Olympics New York – Long Island hoopsters took to the floor at Madison Square Garden for an exhibition Basketball game.

While the players from St. John's University and Seton Hall University retired to their locker rooms at halftime, the Nassau Starz formed two teams and gave the crowd of 8,059 plenty to cheer about.

In particular, Keith Holmes excited fans with a 3-point basket and Vernon Evans did his best Allen Iverson impersonation, dribbling behind his back. ■ JF

## Triumph

Vol. 8, No. 2, February 2004

Triumph is published 12 times a year by the Public Relations Department for the athletes, volunteers, employees, Board members, local and regional programs, sponsors and donors of Special Olympics New York, Inc.

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# Special Olympics New York Draws a Winner with New York Lottery

*New York Lottery to serve as leading sponsor in 2004.*

New York Lottery recently renewed its longstanding relationship with Special Olympics New York, signing on as a SONY statewide sponsor for 2004.

“Special Olympics New York provides sports opportunities to 40,000 children and adults with mental retardation, and we never charge our athletes or their families to participate,” said Neal J. Johnson, SONY’s President and Chief Executive Officer. “So New York Lottery’s sponsorship is one of the key elements that allows us to continue creating those sports opportunities.”

“New York Lottery will have a hand in nearly all of Special Olympics New York’s state-level events in 2004,” said Rosemary

Bruno, SONY’s Vice President of Development. “New York Lottery is again providing significant – and crucial – financial support, but there’s another important element to the relationship: Over the years, New York Lottery’s representatives have become part

of the Special Olympics family. Our athletes love interacting with New York Lottery’s representatives, especially Yolanda Vega.”

Vega, a member of New York Lottery’s Draw Team and perhaps the organization’s



Yolanda Vega, a member of New York Lottery’s Draw Team, is an ardent SONY supporter.

most recognizable on-air personality, served as an emcee at several SONY functions in 2003, including the Hot Saratoga Nights Black-Tie Gala (part of the Satins, Silks & Stars week) and the New York City-based Million Dollar Duck Race.

In fact, one of the silent auctions items up for bid at the Hot Saratoga Nights Black-Tie Gala was called “Be Yolanda Vega for a Day,” which allowed the high-bidder to appear on air with Vega as she

announced the Lottery’s evening Numbers and Win 4 drawings.

New York Lottery employees also served as parade marshals and volunteers at SONY events in 2003. They will do so again in 2004.



“New York Lottery’s representatives bring so much energy and enthusiasm to our events, and it’s a joy to watch them work with our athletes,” Bruno said. “If you watch them interact with the athletes for just a few moments, you can tell that they’re there because they want to be there. And they make our athletes smile. What’s more important than that?”

“Special Olympics sponsors give me and my fellow athletes the courts and the fields, the swimming pools and the weights,” longtime SONY athlete Joe Iaconis said. “They give us the volleyballs and the baseball gloves. Sponsors give us the Games.” ■ JF

## Moss Hauls in Big Numbers for Special Olympics

*Athletes of SONY – Long Island will receive \$30,080 as Jets wide receiver and North Fork Bank team up.*

Santana Moss of the New York Jets had a breakout season in 2003, cracking the 1,000-yard barrier in receiving for the first time in his three-year career, and nobody will benefit more than the 5,000 athletes served by Special Olympics New York – Long Island.

Prior to the start of the 2003 NFL campaign, North Fork Bank agreed to donate \$20 to SONY – Long Island for every all-purpose yard gained by Moss during the regular season, which ended Dec. 28 for the Jets.

Moss’ numbers – he racked up 1,504 total yards: 1,105 receiving yards; 67 rushing yards; and 332 punt return yards – work out to \$30,080 for SONY – Long Island.

“Santana Moss and the New York Jets gained quite a few fans on Long Island this season,” said Jeff McCausland, Executive Director of SONY – Long Island. “Everyone involved with Special Olympics enjoyed watching Santana play. His enormous talent on the football field, along with North Fork Bank’s generosity, is helping Special Olympics athletes get in the game – whichever game they choose to play – too.” ■ JF



Santana Moss

Photo courtesy of the New York Jets

# www.specialolympicsNY.org Launches with New Look and New Goal

If you've visited Special Olympics New York's Web site recently, you've seen the many changes that have taken place. In addition to sporting a new address – www.specialolympicsNY.org – and a new look, the Web site offers more options and features, and it is easier to navigate than the old site.

"The new Web site will open up the lines of communication between SONY's offices and our volunteers, athletes, families and sponsors," said Doreen Hand, SONY's Associate Director of Public Relations and webmaster for www.specialolympicsNY.org. "The new site also will help us reach individuals and organizations who would like to become involved."

Visitors to www.specialolympicsNY.org are encouraged to sign up for e-mail updates and announcements from Special Olympics New York. With that in mind, every page of the site houses a form that allows you to submit your e-mail address.



There also are forms for those who are interested in volunteering, sponsoring an athlete or becoming an athlete.

The new home page shows the face of Special Olympics through photographs, and it provides a snapshot of the latest news and upcoming events in a clear and concise design. And the navigational system, through identifying tabs and pull-down menus, assures that users will not get lost. Instead, they will be able to quickly

find what they're looking for.

"What we have now is a foundation upon which we can build a bigger and better site for all of our audiences," Hand said. "There is a big focus on SONY's regions on the new site. And as the existing regions grow, and as others become official, so will their individual pages."

Each region will have its own page, which will include: a map of the counties it serves; a schedule of events, with each event linking to an information page; and headlines from that region. Site visitors who are looking for Special Olympics events near them can simply click on a map and find regional information.

The site will grow in other ways, too:

- Photo galleries will be added and categorized by event and/or region. Volunteers in the field are encouraged to send in their photos, which may be placed on the site.

- A message board will be created so that visitors can leave their comments or questions on the site and information can be shared. This should prove useful to athletes and coaches who may want to share training tips, or to volunteers who would like to share their experiences and encourage others to participate.

The site's growth will be dependent on those who use it, and Special

Olympics New York encourages input.

In other words, you should let Special Olympics New York know what works and what doesn't.

"Communication is the key to the success of any organization, and www.specialolympicsNY.org will serve as a bridge that allows us to reach out to all of those who have been touched by our mission and all of people we have yet to connect with," SONY President and Chief

## How to Use

### www.specialolympicsNY.org

*Navigating the front page's main features.*

- A section of the Web site is dedicated to each of the following groups: *Athletes, Volunteers, Sponsors, Families and Coaches*. People from each of those groups can click on a link that will provide appropriate information.
- When you click on *SO Near You*, you'll be taken to an interactive map that allows you to find a program near you. There also are links to regional sites, where you can find additional information on events, news and contacts in that region.
- *Events*. This section houses a comprehensive, up-to-date calendar of events.
- The *Press Box* link contains recent and past press releases, stories, newsletters and writing guidelines for the press and volunteers.
- *Donate*. This is where you'll get information on how to donate online, as well as information on planned giving and matching-gifts programs.
- Click on *Initiatives* for information on outreach initiatives such as Healthy Athletes, Global Messengers, the Law Enforcement Torch Run and SO Get Into It.
- *About Us*. Hit this button for frequently asked questions and general Special Olympics information, a Special Olympics New York contact list, Special Olympics New York employment opportunities and a message from Special Olympics New York President and Chief Executive Officer Neal J. Johnson.

Executive Officer Neal J. Johnson said. "It also will give us an opportunity to build upon our current relationships with Special Olympics families, athletes, supporters and volunteers. This site is as much theirs as it is ours." ■ DH

## Be Like Jake *Continued from P. 1*

10 years old and instead of spending his money on Gameboy games or sports jerseys, he's helping to create sports opportunities for people with mental retardation. Jake is an incredible young man who's truly making a difference. We should all BE LIKE JAKE."

One SONY staffer – Pete Lawrence, SONY's Director of Competition – took Johnson's message to heart. After reading Jake's letter, he decided to launch the BE LIKE JAKE campaign.

"Jake's story touched me because as adults we often lose sight of what we're capable of," said Lawrence, who approached his coworkers at a holiday work party, asking them to match Jake's \$60 donation.

"I figured that if a 10-year-old can do that, so can we."

Lawrence's coworkers agreed and, in one hour, SONY's employees raised \$1,000, which means that the fledgling BE LIKE JAKE campaign will send five Special Olympics athletes to SONY's 2004 Winter Games (Feb. 20-21 in Ellenville). Jake will attend the Winter Games, and he will receive photos of

the five athletes he's helping to sponsor.

So, how did Jake decide to designate Special Olympics New York as his charity?

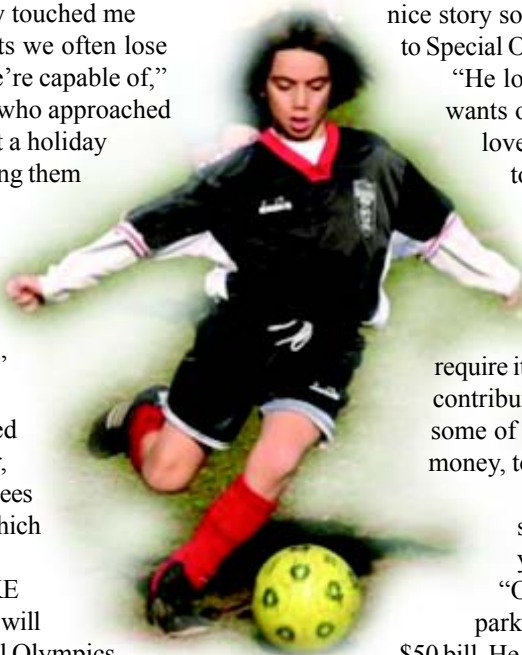
"My mom forwarded me an e-mail that said how a boy in a Special Olympics race had fallen and all the other runners went back to help him," said Jake, who enjoys basketball, baseball, soccer, tennis and skiing. "I thought it was a really nice story so I decided to give to Special Olympics."

"He loves sports and he wants other people who love sports to be able to participate, too," said Jake's mother.

And Jake doesn't donate his money to charity just because his parents require it. For example, his \$60 contribution to SONY included some of his allotted spending money, too.

Jake's mother tells another story that illustrates the youngster's generosity:

"One year, we were in a parking lot and Jake found a \$50 bill. He immediately asked if he could put it in the UNICEF box. We said, 'You don't have to put it all in, Jake.' But he genuinely wanted to."



**"Jake's story touched me because as adults we often lose sight of what we're capable of. I figured that if a 10-year-old can do that, so can we."**

–Pete Lawrence,  
SONY's Director of Competition

"I love how good helping other people makes me feel," Jake said. "And I'm going to step it up this year. I did \$60 in 2003, but I'm going to try for at least \$80 this year."

Special Olympics New York is encouraging everyone to BE LIKE JAKE. To match Jake's \$60 contribution, or for more information, please call 800-836-6976 or visit [www.specialolympicsNY.org](http://www.specialolympicsNY.org).

"Special Olympics New York creates sports opportunities for 40,000 children and adults with mental retardation, and we never charge our athletes or their families to participate," Johnson said. "So I think everyone should BE LIKE JAKE. We can all make a difference." ■ JF

## Genesee Region Staffer Honored

*Marian Turner earns Rochester Press-Radio Club award.*

The Rochester Press-Radio Club recently presented Marian Turner, Director of Development and Public Relations for Special Olympics New York's Genesee Region, with the Morrie Silver Award. She was selected for providing athletic opportunities to children and adults with mental retardation.

Turner was honored on Feb. 5 at Riverside Convention Center, at the 55th annual Rochester Press-Radio Club's Day of Champions Charity Dinner.

Former New York Yankee Roger Clemens, who recently signed on to pitch for the Houston Astros, was slated to be on hand to receive the 2004 Coca-Cola Sports Personality of the Year Award.

Morrie Silver helped keep professional baseball in Rochester by organizing a 1957 stock sale to purchase the Rochester Red Wings and their stadium from the St. Louis Cardinals. Therefore, the Morrie Silver Award is presented annually to someone who advances sports in Rochester. ■ JF



Marian Turner speaks at a volunteer dinner.

Images Now, Mike Oberholzer

## Around the State

### Hudson Valley

A Jan. 7 roast to honor and toast former New York Mets manager and ESPN baseball analyst Bobby Valentine raised nearly \$20,000 for the athletes of Special Olympics New York – Westchester-Putnam. The roast was held at the Doral Arrowwood country club in Rye Brook, and the attendees included former Los Angeles Dodgers manager Tommy Lasorda and New York Yankees general manager Brian Cashman.

For five Special Olympics athletes – Brian Mehra, Lindsay Spiegel, Deborah Dempsey, Sara Chamberlain and Jennifer Wong – the highlight of the event came when they stepped onto a stage and hung a gold medal around Valentine's neck. Valentine, who will soon move to Japan to manage the Chiba Lotte Marines, was honored because of his history of service to organizations such as Special Olympics.

"I have been given a lot," Valentine said. "And one thing that I have been given tonight that I will cherish forever is around my neck right now."

### Long Island

When ticket number 0061 was drawn at Special Olympics New York – Long Island's annual recognition/awards dinner on Dec. 22, Dan Rennus, Dan Liff and Mike Stern of Smith Barney became big winners. The three had gone in together on a "Golfer's Dream Vacation" raffle ticket, and they won a trip to California's famed Pebble Beach golf course.

The trip includes round-trip airfare for four people, a five-day stay at the Pebble Beach Lodge, three days of golf for four people and \$500 for each member of the foursome.

SONY – Long Island sold 283 tickets and raised more than \$15,000 for its athletes.

### Staten Island

The athletes of Special Olympics New York – Staten Island were the recipients of a year-end holiday party, which was hosted by Holiday Express, an all-volunteer organization that aims to spread good cheer throughout each holiday season.

Approximately 600 SONY athletes, coaches, family and staff members attended the celebration, which was held at the Cromwell Center (Pier 6, Staten Island). The New York City Parks Department donated the use of the Cromwell Center.

The party featured dancing, snacks, arts and crafts, a "Disco Santa" skit involving SONY athletes and coaches, and gifts for all the SONY athletes in attendance. Additionally, the Grinch paid a visit, as did Frosty the Snowman, Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer, and Santa and his elves.

"The party certainly helped make the holiday season brighter and merrier for our athletes," said Chris Dickhut, a longtime SONY – Staten Island volunteer who, along with her son Nick, earned SONY Family of the Year honors in 2001.

## Getting to Know SONY's Female Athlete of the Year

When Debra Ellis was asked how she felt about being named Special Olympics New York's 2004 Female Athlete of the Year, she said, "I couldn't believe it. I didn't know what to say."

And that's saying a lot. While Ellis is best known for her athletic abilities, she's also a talented communicator. In fact, she often introduces herself to new SONY volunteers, thanking them for their help.

It's that outgoing personality, paired with determination, that helped Ellis overcome severe asthma attacks six years ago. The attacks temporarily kept Ellis, who has competed in Special Olympics events for 27 years, from participating in her favorite sport – running. She didn't give up, though, and she soon found herself back on the track.

In addition to Track & Field, Ellis competes in Aquatics, Bowling, Softball and Basketball Skills, and she most recently competed in Floor Hockey Skills at the Section 1 Floor Hockey Tournament. She also works full-time at Marshall's, is active in her church and helps teach Basketball Skills to younger athletes.

Ellis' next stop will be the 2004 Winter Games, where she will again compete in Floor Hockey Skills. Additionally, she and fellow Global Messenger Michael Burg will lead nearly 1,000 athletes and coaches in the Athlete's Oath during Opening Ceremonies.

"I can't wait," Ellis said. "I want to tell people all over the state how great Special Olympics is and how much I love it." ■ DH



Debra Ellis fires off a shot.

SONY Staff / Doreen Hand

## Getting to Know SONY's Male Athlete of the Year

The following phrase opened up the 2004 Section 1 Floor Hockey Tournament: "My name is Michael Burg and I am a Global Messenger for Special Olympics New York. I am also the Male Athlete of the Year."

Michael Burg then stood at the podium and smiled, basking in the applause of volunteers and fellow SONY athletes.

Burg has a lot to be proud of. Once a shy young man, he is now an outgoing, generous adult who captains his Floor Hockey team. He also participates in Basketball, Softball, Track & Field and Aquatics.

Burg's athletic skills, paired with his sense of sportsmanship and his ability to lead and encourage teammates, earned him 2004 SONY Male Athlete of the Year honors.

A 15-year veteran of Special Olympics competitions, Burg also performs volunteer work at a nursing home and he has worked as a Boy Scout camp counselor. In his spare time, he helps out at the Brooklyn Special Olympics office.

"He is kind, gentle and generous with his help and support," said Chris Munnely, Brooklyn's training director.

Burg's Brooklyn Bombers placed second to Manhattan at the recent Floor Hockey tournament, but Burg was not disappointed with his silver medal. As always, he was as proud of his teammates as they were of him. ■ DH



Michael Burg runs during a Floor Hockey Tournament.

SONY Staff / Doreen Hand

## Point of View

By Jim Smith

OK, I've stared at this blank computer screen long enough. It's time to write this "Point of View" column – to sit down and put into words my thoughts about my four-and-a-half years at Special Olympics. Maybe I'll even figure out what it all meant to me.

I'm inspired enough to write it. I just have brainlock.

I could begin the column by thanking the people who impacted my life and my attitude since June of 1999. Nah. That would take too long, and much too much space. After all, there are 40,000 athletes and 30,000 volunteers, and a bunch of employees and sponsors. All friends who made me realize that all people are NOT created equally, but all hearts and souls are – at least in Special Olympics.

I know, I'll tell a story. Like the time I was taking a nervous athlete to a speaking engagement. He hadn't tied too many ties before, especially around a button-down collar, so he asked me to do it. We were running late, so I tied it around my neck as we were driving, then lifted it off and handed it to him. He said he could handle the rest. When we reached our destination, I ran to the other side of the car to open his door and found him struggling with the

seatbelt. We could not control our laughter when we realized he had buttoned his collar over the tie AND the seatbelt. A perfect icebreaker before an important speech, we both thought, and a moment in time I will never forget.

But I can't tell just that story. And if I tell more than one, the column will be too long. But what about all of the other athletes –

the hundreds who I came to know by first name? They have stories, too. Like Ezra, who is probably the most gifted runner in the world of Special Olympics, or Kevin, who gave us chills as he braved the heat carrying the Flame of Hope to Dublin.

There's Bonnie and Joe and Mary and Greg. Nothing else mattered when I heard them speak. I was too busy wondering how we could bottle and sell their courage and spirit. Hey, no more budget crunches.

I could always write about the long hours and the weekends away from my children. Selfishly, though, I don't regret it: If my daughter grows up to be as sweet and



James Williams  
Jim Smith, SONY's former Vice President of Public Relations, spends time with SONY athlete David Drojak at the 2002 Summer Games in Buffalo.



Jim Smith

sincere as Raymell, then I will be blessed. If my son is half as polite, hard-working and personable as Craig, or as devoted to reaching his potential as Sean, then I'll know I've succeeded as a father.

Yup, there are too many memories. Too many moments where I've witnessed triumph. Too many stories where someone fell and got back up, sometimes with help from an opponent. There's no way I could ever recognize all of that and then, in this small space, thank everyone who contributed to the most incredible and inspiring time of my life.

Can I get back to you?

*Point of View is written periodically. Jim Smith is Special Olympics New York's former Vice President of Public Relations. He resigned in January and is now Communications Manager for New York Independent System Operator. To submit a Point of View idea, contact Jeff Foley at 518-388-0793 or [jfoley@nyso.org](mailto:jfoley@nyso.org).*



RF Photography

## Fan-Friendly Winter Games

*Continued from P. 1*

One of the sports spectators may be drawn to is Snowshoeing. After a lengthy hiatus, Snowshoeing was reintroduced to Special Olympics athletes at the 2001 Special Olympics World Winter Games in Alaska. Now, it's returning to the Nevele.

"Snowshoeing has enjoyed a resurgence in the general public, so it made perfect sense to bring it back to Special Olympics," Lawrence said. "It's a lifetime pursuit for many of our athletes."

Opening Ceremonies, which are a festive kick-off to the Games, will be held from 8 to 9 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 20. Competition will run from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 21, and the brief Closing Ceremonies, which will include fireworks, are slated for 7 to 7:15 p.m. on Feb. 21.

For a detailed schedule, visit [www.specialolympicsNY.org](http://www.specialolympicsNY.org) or call 800-836-6976. ■ JF





## Special Olympics New York

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## 2004 Calendar of Events

### Picture of the Month



SONY Staff / Doreen Hand

Players from the Babylon Bobcats and the Nassau Lions battle for the puck during the recent Section I Floor Hockey Tournament.

### FEBRUARY

- 7 Section 2 Hockey
- 7 Alpine Skiing – *Central Region*, Syracuse
- 7 Nordic Skiing – *Capital District Region*, Saratoga
- 7 Winter Games & Nordic Skiing –  
*Genesee Region*, Fairport
- 7 Alpine & Nordic Skiing – *Southern Tier Region*,  
Toggenberg
- 8 Nordic Skiing – *Hudson Valley Region*,  
Rosendale, Williams Lake Hotel
- 9 Alpine Skiing – *Hudson Valley Region*, Sterling Forest Tuxedo
- 9 Alpine Skiing – *Genesee Region*, Swain
- 8 LETR Polar Plunge, Rochester
- 20 Crystal Ball Olympic Gala –  
*Genesee Region*, Hyatt Regency
- 20-21 Winter Games, Nevele Grande, Ellenville
- TBD Area Floor Hockey – *Long Island Region*,  
Farmingdale HS

\* For more details, please contact Special Olympics New York office.

Mission: To provide year-round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-style sports for children and adults with mental retardation, giving them continuing opportunities to develop physical fitness, demonstrate courage, experience joy and participate in the sharing of gifts, skills and friendship with their families, other Special Olympics athletes and the community.