



News Release

spokaneparks.org

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DATELINE: ATHENS, GREECE, THE SPECIAL OLYMPICS MIKE VANZEE WINS BRONZE MEDAL

Mike VanZee of Spokane, Washington, was the lone POWERLIFTER competing Tuesday. He earned a bronze medal in bench press, 4th place ribbon in dead lift, 4th place ribbon in squat and 4th place overall.

Mike is one of nine Special Olympics Washington athletes chosen to compete in the Special Olympics 2011 World Summer Games in Athens, June 25 – July 4. He stands as the only Special Olympics Washington athlete from Spokane County going to the World Summer Games and joined his eight teammates from Washington State as Team Washington.

Mike's sport is power-lifting. He's been involved with Special Olympics Washington for twenty-six years and is a participant in the City of Spokane Parks and Recreation Therapeutic Recreation Program. Mike has competed in a wide range of sports, including: speed skating, basketball, bowling, roller skating, and aquatics.

About Spokane Parks and Recreation Therapeutic Recreation Services (TRS)

TRS serves a broad range of people with developmental and physical disabilities. Additionally, all Recreation Department activities are open to individuals with disabilities. The age range for TRS programs starts at various ages from 8 to 18, and goes all the way up to your discretion. Therapeutic Recreation staff provides leadership for activities including sports, exercise, outdoor adventure and social events. Scholarships are available for participants needing financial help. Donations from individuals and organizations are gladly accepted. Volunteers are needed and always welcome.

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