

For Immediate Release  
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## **Special Olympics Montana State Basketball Tournament Returns to the Mining City! November 4-6, 2010**

*Athlete Numbers Expected to Reach 700+!*

*Great Falls, Montana:* Special Olympics Montana, a 40-year-old movement that enables children and adults with intellectual disabilities to train for life through sports, is pleased to once again bring the State Basketball Tournament to the city of Butte, November 4-6, 2010. The State Basketball Tournament is being held in Butte for three consecutive years beginning November 2008 – 2010.

Tournament Premier Sponsor, Town Pump, is eager to once again welcome to their hometown corporate headquarters in Butte approximately 700 athletes and 180 coaches who represent 65+ teams from over 25 communities across Montana. *“Team Town Pump is eager to welcome some of the world’s most determined athletes to Butte for the 2010 Special Olympics Montana State Basketball Tournament. Committed to giving their best efforts, these athletes from across the state epitomize the best in all of us.”* said Town Pump spokesperson and the Tournament’s Honorary Chairwoman, Maureen Kenneally.

The tournament has grown in size each year for seven consecutive years. Prior to moving to Butte the tournament was held in Helena, 2005 – 2007 and in Butte, 2002 – 2004.

In addition to 125 team competitions over three days, nearly 50 athletes are expected to take part in Individual Skills competition. Special events such as the Opening and Closing Ceremonies, Athlete Victory Banquet, the Healthy Athlete Program Health Promotions, Dance/Carnival, Families & Friends Dinner and more, will create memorable experiences as we celebrate life through sports and create a world of acceptance, respect and inclusion for people of all abilities.

As an athlete-centered, family-based and volunteer driven organization, Special Olympics Montana relies almost exclusively on the support of community volunteers, businesses and service organizations for leadership, planning and preparation, in-kind and financial gifts.

To learn more about Special Olympics Montana or to receive information about volunteer or sponsorship opportunities at the 2010 State Basketball Tournament, please visit our website at: [www.somt.org](http://www.somt.org) or call Special Olympics Montana at 1-800-242-6876.

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