



BlazeSports™
AMERICA

Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: April 29, 2009

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BlazeSports Macon Wraps up Physical Activity Program for the Visually Impaired with Swim Clinic and Track & Field Competition

MACON, Ga. – BlazeSports Macon will officially wrap up its healthy lifestyle and physical activity program for the visually impaired on April 30 with a Swim Clinic and Track & Field competition featuring top student athletes with visual impairment. The Track and Field event will include 10 events including 60 meter, shot put, and long jump. Ribbons will be awarded to 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners at the conclusion of the event.

“Sports and physical activity not only increase youth with disabilities’ longevity, it can also improve their overall quality of life and academic performance,” said Dorothy Arensman, school director of the Georgia Academy for the Blind “And the students have a lot of fun in the process. The school looks forward to continuing BlazeSports after school program in the future”

Funded in part by grants from the Healthcare Georgia Foundation and the Georgia Department of Labor, the year-round BlazeSports program provides opportunities for children with visual impairments to have fun while being active. Elements of this initiative include enhancing sports programs at the Georgia Academy for the Blind such as swimming, track and field, cheerleading and wrestling; providing after school recreation to students not involved in sports; offering nutrition education; and increasing fruit and vegetables offered in the school cafeteria.

“Research suggests that children and youth with physical disability and visual impairment face similar or elevated risk for overweight and obesity as those without disability. Creating a school environment that promotes physical activity and healthy eating is key to addressing this important health issue. The community, parents/family and healthcare providers, however, also play important role in the health of Georgia’s youth,” said Mara Galic, nutrition and program development specialist for BlazeSports America.

Event Information:

Swim Clinic and Competition, Georgia Academy for the Blind, Time: 4:00pm

Track and Field Competition, Mount de Sales Athletic Complex, 4659 Cavalier Dr., Macon GA. 31204, Time: 5:30pm

About BlazeSports America

BlazeSports America advances the lives of youth and adults with physical disability to realize their potential through sport and healthy lifestyles. BlazeSports provides sports training, competitions, summer camps, leadership training, and recreational opportunities for youth and adults who use wheelchairs, have a visual impairment, have an amputation, or who have a neurological disability such as cerebral palsy. For more information visit our website at www.blazesports.org

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