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NEWSLETTER March 2007

NO BARRIERS FESTIVAL 2007 will feature inspirational *Speaker Evenings*

John Hockenberry



**COL Barbara
Springer**



MAJ David Rozelle



Hal O'Leary



Karen Darke



John Hockenberry, winner of three Peabody Awards, four Emmys, an Edward R. Murrow award and a Casey Medal award, has had broad experience as a journalist and commentator for more than two decades. He has reported from all over the world, in virtually every medium, having anchored programs for network, cable and public radio and television. His programs have illuminated issues and events from corporate downsizing to the new face of homelessness to the mysterious world of Saudi Arabia post 9/11. Among his shows are NPR's *Talk of the Nation*, *ABC News*, *Dateline NBC*, *The Infinite Mind* and the blog, *The Blogenberry*. John Hockenberry is a paraplegic, having lost the use of his legs in an automobile accident at age 19.

COL Barbara A. Springer, PT, PhD, OCS, SCS has spent the past twenty years in the field of physical therapy and with the Armed Forces. She has served at Ft. Sill, OK; Camp Casey, Korea; Schofield Barracks, Hawaii; and West Point. Currently, she is Chief of Physical Therapy Service at Walter Reed Army Medical Center. As a board certified Orthopedic and a Sports PT Specialist, COL Springer is an active member of the American Physical Therapy Association. Her research interests lie in sports physical therapy, core stabilization, amputee rehab and outcome measures, and psychosomatic medicine. During her presentation, COL Springer will outline physical therapy evaluation and treatment of severely injured service-members from initial care on the battle field to preparation for a full life.

Major David Rozelle was leading a convoy in Iraq in June 2003, when his vehicle struck a landmine and resulted in the loss of his right foot. He was the first troop commander to redeploy to the same battlefield as an amputee in recent military history. Major Rozelle is currently assigned to Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C. In addition to his work at Walter Reed as a Peer Visitor and as a mentor for all the severely injured, Rozelle is active in a number of not-for-profit organizations. Initially, his rehabilitation focused on skiing and snowboarding. He then expanded his athletic training to include triathlons, completing eleven Sprint and Olympic distance triathlons to date. Most recently, in 2006, Maj. Rozelle conquered not only the Ford Ironman Coeur d'Alene Triathlon, but the Ford Ironman World Championship in Kona - an important goal he set for himself to prove that he's not only "back in action," but back with a purpose.

Hal O'Leary has developed innovative teaching techniques and pioneered adaptive equipment to help the disabled ski. He garnered the prestigious Golden Quill and National Forest Service awards for his contributions to the field of skiing and utilization of forest land in the interests of the disabled. He wrote the first definitive ski teaching manual for the disabled: **BOLD TRACKS: Skiing for the Disabled** and is founder of Winter Park's internationally-acclaimed National Sports Center for the Disabled. O'Leary is a spokesman for giving the disabled an opportunity to again be involved in the mainstream of life through rehabilitation and recreation.

Karen Darke was paralyzed in a rock-climbing accident in the sea cliffs near Aberdeen, Scotland. Determined not to let being wheelchair-bound restrict her, she has repeatedly challenged the confines of her disability. Recently, she was the first paraplegic to ski across Greenland's icecap. Ms. Darke is the lead speaker, coach and facilitator at *Inspire + Impact*, using her powerful and inspiring personal experiences to create positive impact in the lives, health and work of others.

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