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## Disabled Sports USA Provides Adaptive Recreation to Disabled War Veterans

Sacramento- This Veterans Day, Disabled Sports USA Far West honors veterans of all ages and abilities by continuing in its tradition of providing adaptive sports and recreation opportunities for disabled veterans. Founded in Sacramento in 1967 by World War II veterans of the 10<sup>th</sup> Mountain Division, Disabled Sports has recently been given the prestigious honor of functioning as the lead agency by Walter Reed Medical Center to provide adaptive sports and therapeutic recreation opportunities for the 21,000 soldiers wounded in the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

This past summer Disabled Sports put on a weeklong adaptive sports camp called "Their Spirit Inspires" for five local veterans recently injured in the war in Iraq. "Disabled Sports USA is key for recovery," said Army Sgt. Nicholas Beintema of Woodbridge, CA, who lost his right leg below the knee. "I never thought I would be able to water ski again but today I did. These programs help out a lot, and you only learn from living, so hopefully more people will get to experience them in the future." The veterans learned to golf, water ski, white water raft and play wheelchair baseball throughout the week.

Disabled Sports USA Far West is a leading national nonprofit, which provides sports and recreation programs as a vehicle in the development of a positive self-image and an achieving attitude for people with disabilities. It is the nations largest multi-sport, multi-disability organization and is one of 87 chapters of Disabled Sports USA.

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