

Re: 2/25 – 2/27 Special Olympics PA’s Winter Games in Johnstown and Somerset

Opening Ceremonies to feature Johnstown Chief #16 Ryan Gibbons

WHAT

The first state-level Special Olympics Pennsylvania competition in 2007. Winter Games will feature competition in Alpine skiing (Hidden Valley Ski Resort), cross-country skiing (Blue Knob Ski Resort), figure skating (Cambria County War Memorial), showshoeing (Blue Knob Ski Resort), and speed skating (Planet Ice).

WHO

More than 300 Special Olympics Pennsylvania (SOPA) athletes, 140 coaches, 1,200 volunteers. Athletes from Allegheny, Area M, Beaver, Bethlehem, Blair, Butler, Cambria, Centre, Chester, Erie City, Franklin, Lancaster, Lehigh, Lycoming, Montgomery, Northampton, Northumberland/Snyder, Somerset, Tioga, Washington, Westmoreland and York counties will compete.

Special Sports Guest Ryan Gibbons, #16 of the Johnstown Chiefs, is also slated to speak at Opening Ceremonies, taking place at 7:30 PM on Sunday at the Pasquerilla Performing Arts Center.

Gibbons joined the Chiefs this year building on his college playing experience with the Seattle Thunderbirds. Selected in the 6th round by the Phoenix Coyotes in the 2003 NHL Entry Draft, Gibbons played five seasons in the Western Hockey League for the Seattle Thunderbirds, recording 51 goals and 38 assists in 291 regular season games.

WHEN

Sunday, February 25 – Tuesday, February 28. Competition will commence on Monday and last through Tuesday. A complete schedule is attached.

WHERE

Hidden Valley Ski Resort, Blue Knob Ski Resort, Cambria County War Memorial and Planet Ice.

CONTACT

Fern Conte Miele, 724.375.7515. Onsite as of Saturday, 2/24: 412.292.6103.

MEDIA ARE WELCOME

TO ATTEND TO INTERVIEW ATHLETES, COACHES AND VOLUNTEERS.

###