

## **PRESS RELEASE**

*For Immediate Release*

### **Contact**

Robin Burton, Executive Director  
Orthotic & Prosthetic Assistance Fund, Inc.  
215-752-5756 phone  
215-752-5759 fax  
415-534-1857 Efax  
rlb@opfund.org  
[www.opfund.org](http://www.opfund.org)

## **SOAR First Volley Scores!**

Langhorne, PA – October 23, 2007 – SOAR, Special Opportunities in Advanced Rehabilitation, a non profit organization based in the Detroit area hosted a First Volley Adaptive Tennis Clinic on Sunday, October 21 and scored a winner! SOAR, led by Wendy Beattie, CPO, Heather Palmer, CPO and Rick Lewis, CFO, invited area amputees and people with physical challenges to join with them at Bloomfield Tennis and Fitness in Bloomfield, Michigan for an afternoon session of tennis skills. The clinic was led by First Volley Director of Tennis, Darren Kindred, and assisted by Marie Vanasse, a board eligible practitioner from Ft. Wayne, IN. Eight gentlemen came out and were put through their paces to learn or re-learn tennis strokes.

Each participant was presented with a SOAR/First Volley t-shirt, First Volley socks, a SOAR water bottle and more! All participants went home with a Billie Jean King tennis racquet to continue their tennis skills learned at First Volley. SOAR provided a great lunch and refreshments for everyone. We were pleased to welcome Roger McCarville of Disabilities Today and his camera crew to First Volley. Roger participated in the clinic and took the time to interview attendees and staff on the First Volley experience.

Comments received back included:

“This experience with tennis was so much more fun than when I tried to play in the past without instruction. I’ll be back”, from Mike Henry, CP of Hartland, Michigan. “This program is an excellent idea. The coordinators and coaches were well organized, knowledgeable and helpful to all participants,” from Jim Pastor of Midland, MI. “I now feel confident to turn pro!” said Matt Staines.

“Thanks for the wonderful job. I know everyone involved had a fabulous time. Please extend my sincere thanks to your sponsors. The opportunity for those with disabilities who are not by nature athletes to get out, exercise, have some fun with fellow family members, is a rare opportunity indeed. My favorite moments were watching Matt hitting balls with his father, and watching Mike endanger all the volunteers, his two young sons included,” comments our host, Wendy Beattie, CPO.

If you would like more information on how you may host a First Volley Adaptive Tennis Clinic for your patients and your community, please contact OPAF Executive Director, Robin Burton at 215-752-5756 or [rlb@opfund.org](mailto:rlb@opfund.org).

#####