



1911 11TH STREET  
SUITE 201  
BOULDER, CO 80302

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**CONTACT:** Sidni Giordano  
Public Relations Director  
sidni@paradoxsports.org

## **Paradox Sports to Host Adaptive Climbing Clinic at Mansfield University**

**Boulder, CO** – Paradox Sports will lead an adaptive climbing clinic and Summit Experience Speaker event at Mansfield University on Monday, Oct. 21.

The clinic consists of a four-hour demonstration at an indoor climbing wall in the morning, and a four-hour demonstration at a low ropes course in the afternoon. The clinic is designed to take participants through basic adaptive climbing instruction, from working with people with physical amputations, visual impairment and paralysis, to implementing a sustainable adaptive climbing program at the local climbing gym or as an accredited college course.

The Summit Experience will take place in the evening, and includes presentations by Executive Director Tim O'Neill, his brother and T-12 paraplegic Sean O'Neill and professional adaptive climber Pete Davis. Following the speaker presentations, there will be a screening of the short film *Gimp Monkeys*, a documentary that follows Davis, Craig DeMartino and Jarem Frye as they make the first successful all-adaptive ascent of El Capitan in Yosemite National Park.

After the film, O'Neill will be signing posters, drawing raffle tickets and signing-up new Paradox Sports members. The Summit Experience is free and open to the public, but bring money for raffle tickets and Paradox Sports memberships.

### **Speaker Bios:**

- **Tim O'Neill**

Professional Climber and Executive Director of Paradox Sports.

Timmy O'Neill is recognized as one of the world's funniest, most irreverent and insightful climbing presenters. He has climbed in the remote ranges of the world, completing first ascents from Greenland to Patagonia. He will share stories from his worldwide travels as well as adventures in community service and humanitarian work. In 1991, Timmy's older brother Sean became a T-12 paraplegic after jumping from a Memphis Bridge into the Mississippi River. Fifteen years later, the O'Neill brothers successfully climbed El Capitan, a 3,000-foot vertical rock wall in Yosemite National Park. Since then, Timmy has kayaked, skied, climbed and hiked with numerous paraplegics, amputees and blind athletes. He currently serves as the Executive Director of Paradox Sports, a

non-profit he co-founded in 2007. Paradox Sports improves people's lives by creating physical adaptive sport communities built to inspire.

- **Sean O'Neill**

Sean O'Neill is an adaptive recreation innovator and a world ambassador to disabled sports. In the summer of 2013, O'Neill, a T-12 paraplegic who has been confined to a wheelchair for over a decade, successfully led the second pitch of "Jam Crack," a traditionally protected route in Yosemite National Park. While O'Neill was no stranger to the Valley (he has climbed El Capitan on three separate occasions), this was the first time in history that a paraplegic led a pitch for an able-bodied partner to follow. He has pushed his wheelchair up New Hampshire's Mt. Washington in less than six hours, and from Hilo Bay, on Hawaii's 'Big Island' to the 13,803-foot summit of Mauna Kea in 40 hours. In 2009, Sean and Timmy teamed-up for the difficult ascent of Peak 6000, a thousand-foot wall in the glaciated Ruth Gorge of Alaska. Their journey is portrayed in the film *Brothers Wild*. Today, Sean lives as an artist in Maine with his girlfriend. He is currently training for his next epic adventure.

- **Pete Davis**

Pete Davis was born in 1979 without his right arm a few inches below the elbow. Despite this he has always led a very active life especially once he discovered rock and mountain climbing at the age of 12. Due to the profound positive effect that the outdoor adventure world had on his life he has been on a mission to inspire, empower and educate other disabled people to see their potential in life through these sports. He teamed-up with DJ Skelton and Tim O'Neill in early 2007 during the beginning stages of Paradox Sports. He knew immediately that this organization, more so than any other, defined the high level of performance and intensity that is required for disabled people to excel in so-called "extreme sports." Paradox Sports has been the perfect organization to make Davis' life mission a reality, and it does so through an empowering community of like-minded/bodied individuals. Davis currently serves as the Lead Clinician and Ambassador for Paradox Sports, bringing professional adaptive climbing instruction to the world. Along with being possibly the most accomplished one-armed climber in the world, Davis also enjoys mountain biking, kayaking, snowboarding, and hiking, but most of all, he enjoys introducing other people with adaptive needs to these same sports so that they may also live a life of excellence. In 2012, he joined forces with fellow adaptive athletes Craig DeMartino and Jarem Frye for the successful ascent of Zodiac, a 1,800-foot route on the Southeast Face of El Capitan in Yosemite National Park. The trio became the first adaptive team in history to climb El cap. Their journey was captured in the award-winning documentary, *Gimp Monkeys*.

**Event Location Information:**

Mansfield University  
71 S Academy St.  
Mansfield, PA 16933



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(570) 662-4000  
[www.mansfield.edu/](http://www.mansfield.edu/)

**Sponsors:**

Osprey Packs  
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**Links:**

[Gimp Monkeys](#)

[Tim O'Neill at the 2013 CWA Adaptive Climbing Clinic](#)

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*Paradox Sports is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that improves people's lives by creating an adaptive sport community built to inspire. More information can be found at [www.paradoxsports.org](http://www.paradoxsports.org), or on their [Facebook](#) page.*