

## Student a Contestant on TV's 'The Biggest Loser'

OGDEN, Utah – A Weber State University student hopes to win big by losing big. Freshman Jackson Carter is a contestant on this season's NBC series, "The Biggest Loser." The community is invited to join friends and family to watch the second night of the two-part season premiere, Jan. 7 from 7 to 9 p.m. in the Shepherd Union Wildcat Theater.

Carter, whose starting weight was 328 pounds, is a theater arts teach major. He eventually wants to make his living making films. He volunteers regularly through WSU's Community Involvement Center (CIC).

"Jackson is a dynamic leader," said Mike Moon, assistant director CIC. "Because of Jackson's passion for and engagement in social justice and humanitarianism, the CIC selected him as the 2012-13 Adrian L Maxson scholarship recipient. The WSU family looks forward to cheering on Jackson as he competes on the Biggest Loser."

Carter's sister, Lindsey Alexander, said Carter's mission in life is to make everyone feel welcome, no matter the person's size, lifestyle or interest.

"He's very outgoing and funny," Alexander said. "He knows how to bring a smile to the face of everyone around him. He's a really warm person and draws others to him."

The viewing party is hosted by the OUTreach Resource Center, a community organization that primarily serves the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender (LGBT) community. Carter has been an active participant and advocate for OUTreach for six years.

"Jackson is the heart and soul of OUTreach," said Marian Edmonds, director of the resource center. "Northern Utah has one of the highest rates of LGBT suicide and homelessness, and Jackson is committed to ensuring that today's LGBT teens have what they need to thrive. He is an amazing mentor to youth. He tells us that his time at 'The Biggest Loser' ranch has been one of his biggest challenges, and we are thrilled to cheer him on."

A viewing party for the first night of the two-part premiere will also be held Jan. 6 from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Marriott-Slaterville City Offices.

"It's kind of surreal to see my brother on 'The Biggest Loser' promos," Alexander said. "Our family is proud and happy and can't wait to cheer him on and see where this opportunity leads."

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