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Editor's Note: Photo of Punter Donnie Jones Reading to Children at the Weston Branch Library attached

Broward County Commission Libraries Division Presents
Broward County Library and the Miami Dolphins – A Winning Team!

BROWARD COUNTY, FL – The Miami Dolphins have partnered up with Broward County Library to promote Broward County Library's Summer Reading Program, a literacy initiative that gives children the chance to win prizes by reading over the summer. "Reading with the Dolphins" brings Miami Dolphin players and alumni into Broward County Libraries for special story sessions that make reading come alive.

On July 10, 2006 Dolphins alumnus Shawn Wooden visited Southwest Regional Library, first giving a talk about the importance of reading and then reading the children's book *Poof* while accompanied by teen puppeteers. The next day, Wooden read *Little Granny Quarterback* to a group of children at the South Regional Library, also in Pembroke Pines. Punter Donnie Jones visited the Weston Branch Library on July 11, offering an audience of school-age children the opportunity to hear first-hand from a football star how vital summer reading is along with the story *Jamberry*.

"Having Miami Dolphins players here reading to the children is a great way to get them interested in books and summer reading," says Robert E. Cannon, Director of Broward County Library. "They're great role models for the kids, who love to see the players up-close reading their favorite stories to them."

In addition to the players' volunteering their time at the libraries, the Miami Dolphins have also contributed many prizes to be given to children through the Summer Reading Program at all Broward County Library locations. Prizes include thousands of tickets to Miami

Dolphins preseason games as well as a grand prize to be awarded to top summer readers that includes a VIP trip to a Miami Dolphins training camp practice.

“We really appreciate the Dolphins participation in our Summer Reading Program,” says Director Cannon. “Community support like that really creates a strong bond, and our community’s children are the ones who benefit the most.”

For more information on events at your local Broward County Library, visit us at www.broward.org/library.

Founded in 1974, the award-winning Broward County Libraries Division, www.broward.org/library, provides essential quality of life community service as well as outstanding customer service throughout Broward County. The library consists of 37 branches, more than three million items for public use, 970 permanent staff, 114 part-time staff and \$4.6 million in grants with 41 grant-supported positions. Broward County Library is the ninth largest library system in the United States serving 10 million customers annually.

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