

Ex-Olympian at CSU-Pueblo on Wednesday

By GAYLE PEREZ | gperez@chieftain.com | Posted: Tuesday, September 6, 2011 12:00 am

Jeremy Bloom is known for his skills on the ski slopes as a world champion and Olympic skier.

For others, he's the former University of Colorado football player, who signed to play with the Philadelphia Eagles and Pittsburgh Steelers.

But perhaps his greatest accomplishments have been in his professional life after sports as a philanthropist and businessman.

As the founder of the Wish of a Lifetime Foundation, Bloom helps grants wishes of individuals aged 80-and-older.

Last year, Bloom co-founded the Internet company Integrate.com, which is headquartered in Denver.

Bloom will talk about his leap from the Olympics and the NFL to business and philanthropy at 7 p.m. Wednesday in the Occhiato University Center Ballroom at Colorado State University-Pueblo.

Bloom's presentation is part of the university's Distinguished Speakers Series.

The series features eminent national and international speakers who contribute to current thoughts in social or political activities in the arts and sciences or other contemporary topics.

The series is free and open to the public.

A two-time Olympian and world champion skier, Bloom grew up in Loveland and began skiing as a child.

He won six World Cup events in 2005, a record for a single season.

Bloom competed in his first Olympics as a 19-year-old in 2002 in Salt Lake City and again in 2006 in Torino, Italy.

He also was a football player at the University of Colorado, where he was a standout return specialist and wide receiver. He went on to play in the NFL with the Philadelphia Eagles and the Pittsburgh Steelers.

Bloom founded Wish of a Lifetime Foundation as a way to enrich the lives of seniors by granting them a lifelong wish. He started the foundation in honor of his grandmother, Donna Wheeler.

Last year, Bloom started Integrate.com with \$4.25 million from the Foundry Group. While headquartered in Denver, the company has offices in Scottsdale, Ariz., and New York City.

Bloom is an ESPN and Versus college football analyst. He also served as on-air personality at the 2010 Olympics in Vancouver.